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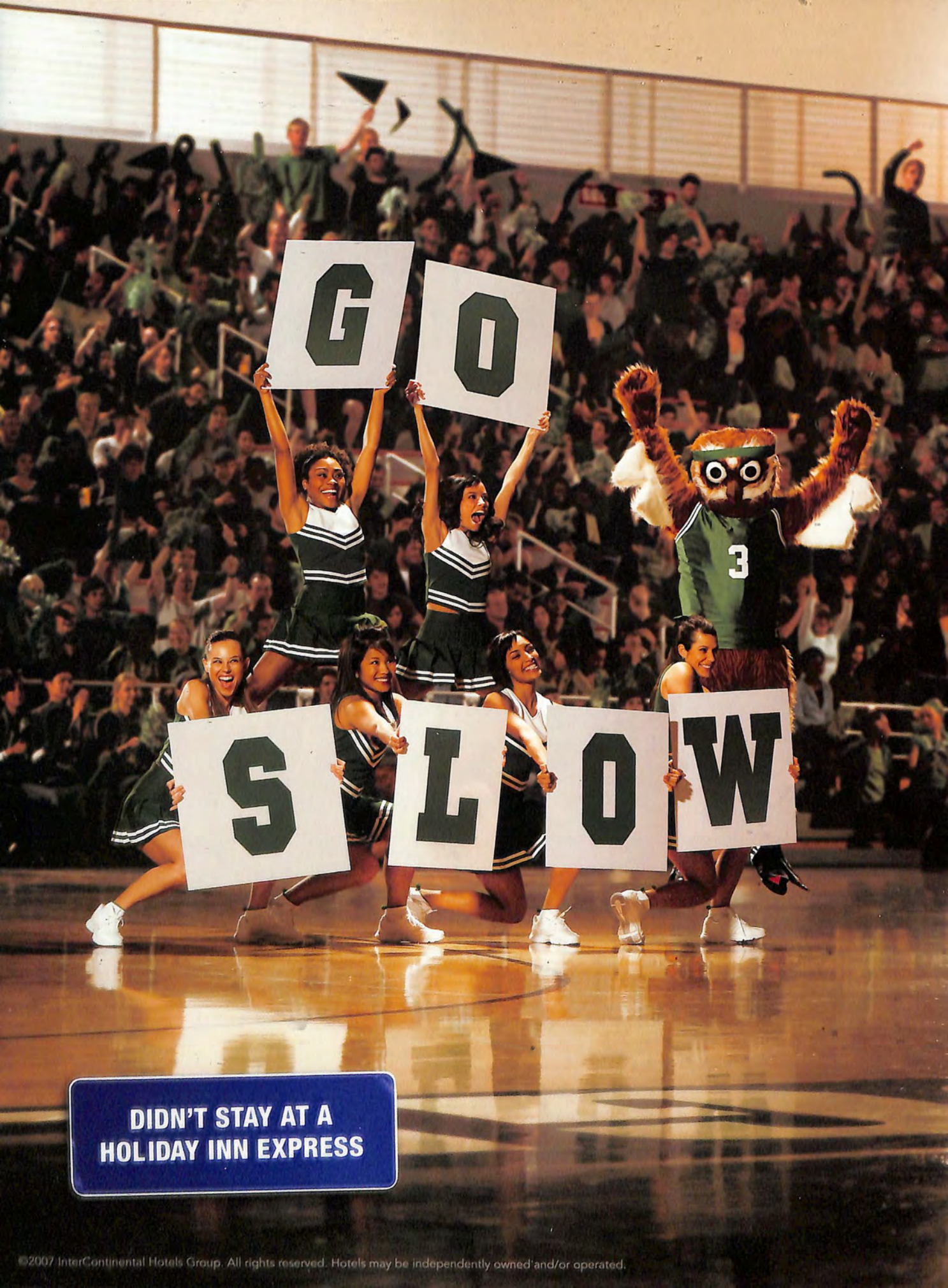


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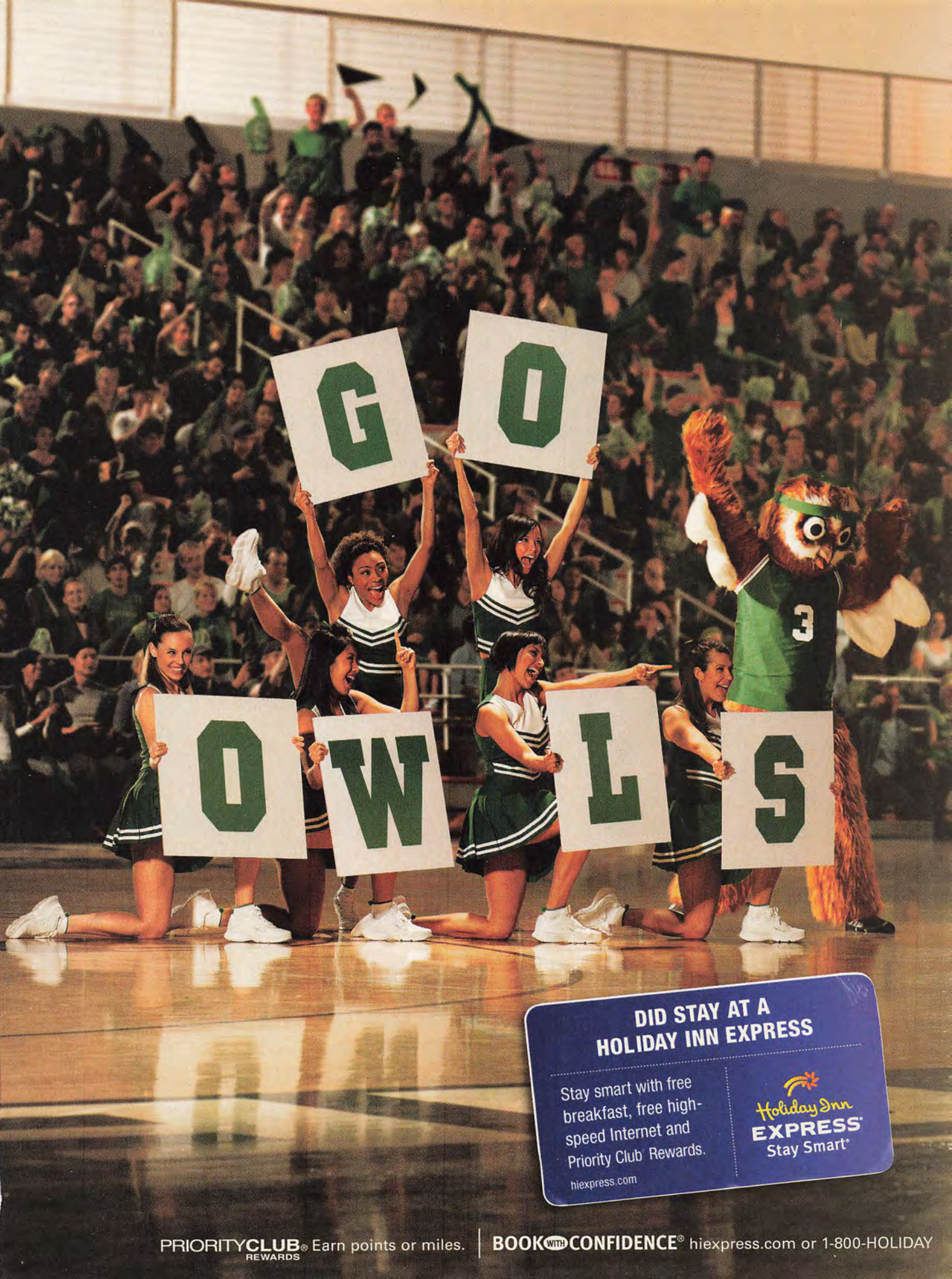
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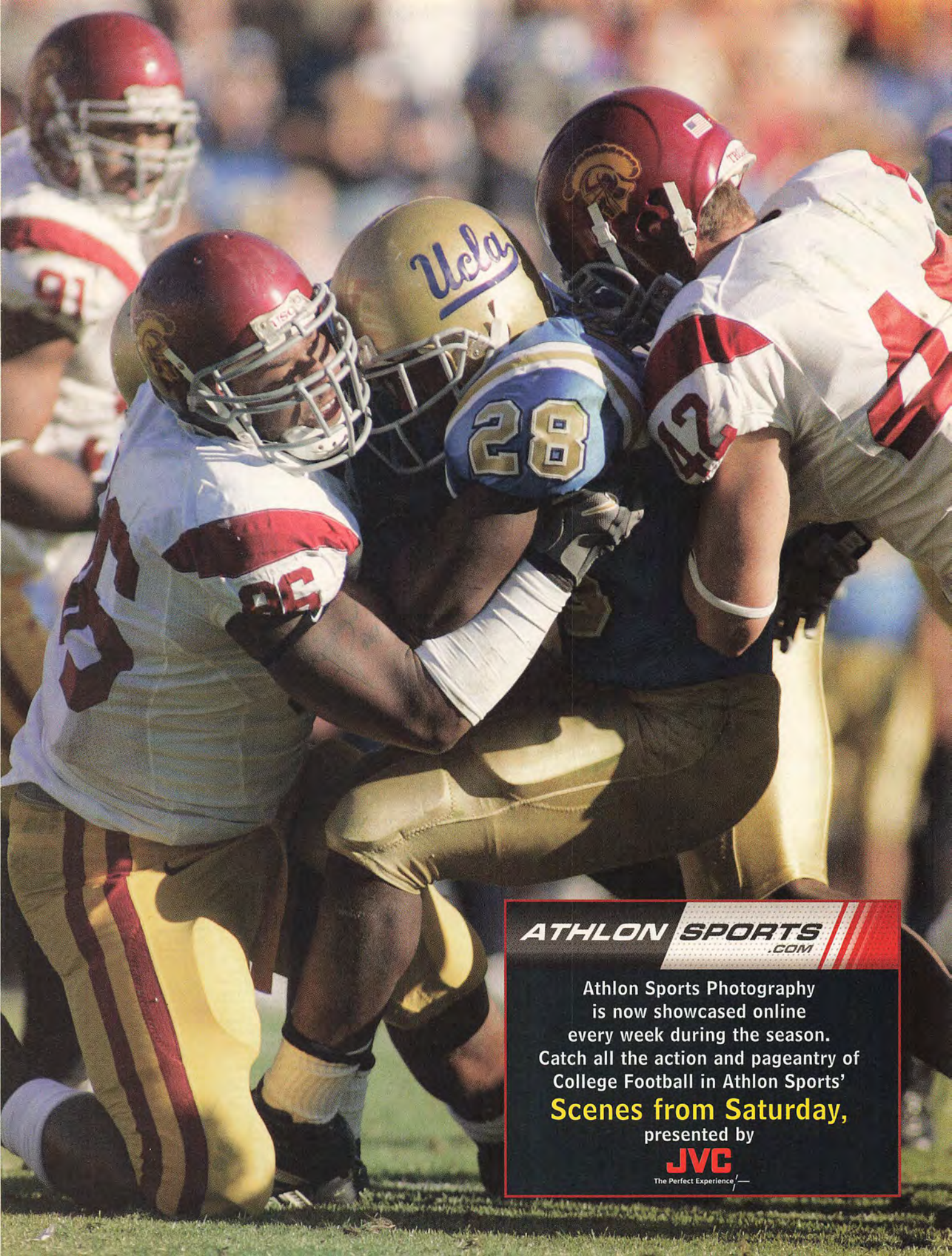
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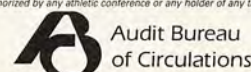
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1967



1978



1982



1997



2007

Here at *Athlon Sports* we are celebrating our 40th Anniversary of publishing college football season previews. I've been around here for only half of that time, but I understand our history and why *Athlon* has become a household name among college football fans.

Athlon began in 1967 with the notion that college football fans wanted more information about their favorite schools than the customary one or two paragraphs that other magazines offered. *Athlon* then found its niche by publishing regional magazines based on the premise that fans wanted a lot of information about their team's conference rivals, and very little information on the rest of the country. That was true in 1967, but times certainly have changed in 40 years.

Other than complete, in-depth regional coverage, perhaps the two things our readers most closely associate with *Athlon* are full-page color photos, and covers featuring their favorite team. In the early 1970s when we began publishing regional magazines (other than *Southeastern Football*), *Athlon* introduced fans to full-page photos and state-by-state covers.

I'll admit, I love our photography. I believe *Athlon* has the best college football photography anywhere. And we've carried that from our magazines to our website. Every week at athlonsports.com, you can view Scenes from Saturday, a slideshow from two games from the previous weekend showcasing our best photography.

While over the years *Athlon* has been proud to feature many schools on our covers that don't otherwise get that kind of attention from other media outlets, we want to do even more. We publish covers featuring as many as 60 different teams each year. But we're not satisfied. We would like to produce covers featuring all 119 teams. But the economics of printing and newsstand distribution limitations prohibit that. So this year, we introduced a concept that allowed fans to preorder magazines in hopes that we could generate enough sales to publish special covers. Admittedly, we hoped — given limited promotion — that one school would come through with the minimum 1,000 orders. We're happy to report that four schools stepped up — Marshall, Southern Miss, UCF and Vanderbilt. We understand that most publishers generally don't picture players from those schools on the covers of their magazines. Be sure to watch our website for the opportunity to get your school on a cover next year.

However varied our covers may be, we have learned over the years that while covers may get attention on the newsstand and create some buzz on message boards, it's what's inside that really matters. If we don't deliver the goods, then our readers won't be back. We believe we offer more in-depth coverage than any other preseason magazine, and we offer it in an insightful and entertaining format.

I think you'll enjoy reading the Playcalling feature in this year's magazine. And if I may be so bold, several of you need to read it. Yeah, I've heard your grumbling leaving the stadium on Saturday. Blaming the loss on the ol' offensive coordinator and his conservative playcalling. Well, before you condemn the guy too harshly, give it a try sometime. Analyze down-and-distance, the defense's tendencies, where you are on the field, your own personnel, who's hot, what the defense is expecting, then organize the personnel, and send in the play — all in about 13 seconds. Go ahead. Try it. Time yourself.

I hope you enjoy the 2007 edition of *Athlon Sports College Football*. If there's anything we're missing, or something that needs to be thrown out, let us know. We love opening our email every day. The address is editor@athlonsports.com.

Enjoy watching your team — and take it easy on the OC.

Charlie Miller
Charlie Miller, Editorial Director

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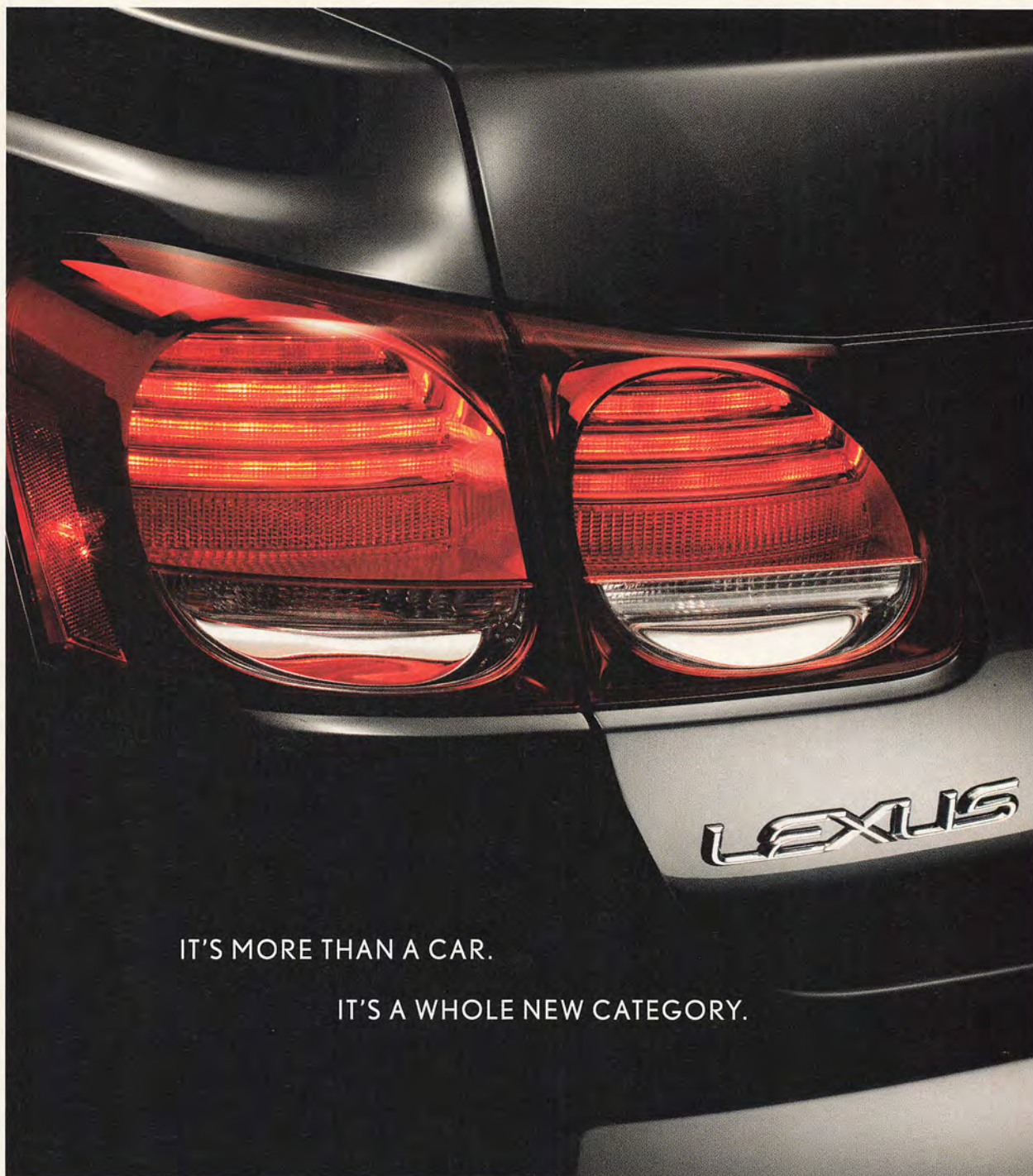
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24 Playcalling

Put yourself in the offensive coordinator's shoes. You have to assess down and distance, field position, personnel and opponents' tendencies; make a decision; and relay that decision to the players on the field, all in 25 seconds or less. It's a lot tougher than the armchair playcallers realize.

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Heisman contenders, ranking the conferences, top freshmen, underrated coaches and much, much more.

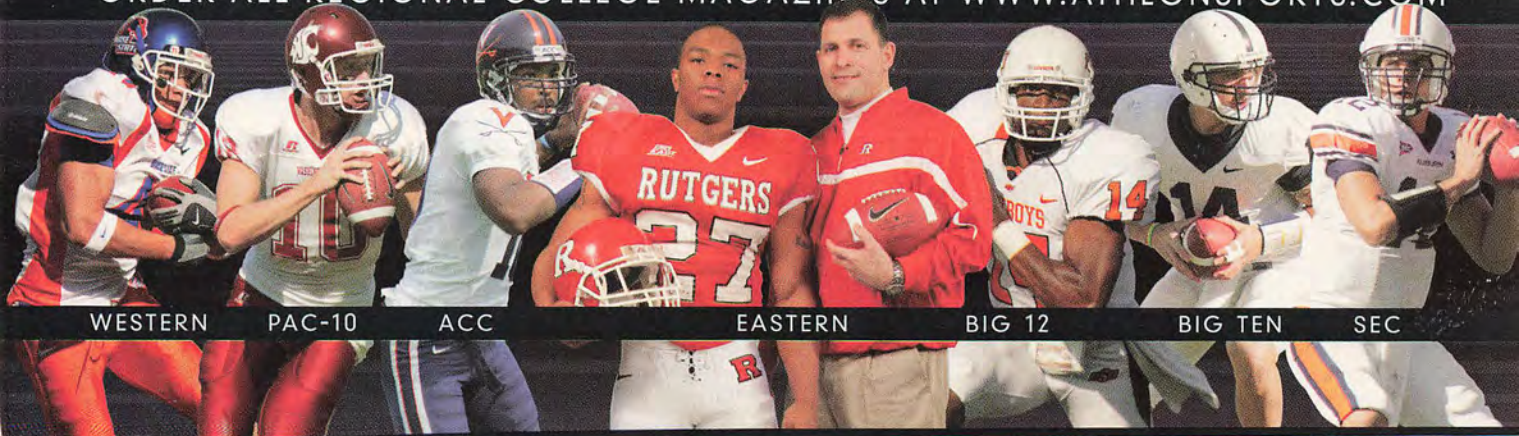
30 Top 40 Recruits of 2002

We know how Vince Young turned out. What about Ryan Moore? Lorenzo Booker? Gerald Riggs Jr.? We revisit the mixed bag that was the recruiting class of 2002.

36 Junior Achievement

This year's junior class of running backs includes playmakers galore. Watch for some of them to make their way to New York City in December.

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Preseason Top 25

To no one's surprise, the Trojans are the top team of 2007. Who's in the hunt to join them for the BCS Championship Game in January 2008?

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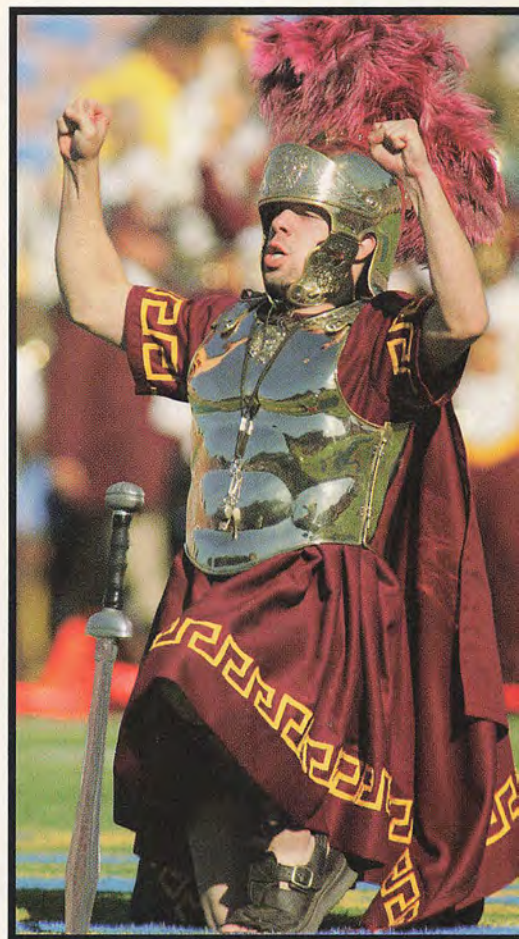
Athlon Sports
All-America Team

This year's decisions were tougher than ever. Ray Rice or Steve Slaton? John David Booty or Colt Brennan? Bottom line — there's no shortage of talent at any position.

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2007
Unit Rankings

Who's got the best offensive line in the Big Ten?
The best running backs in the Big East?
The best linebackers in the Sun Belt?
We've got the scoop.

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78 Sidelines

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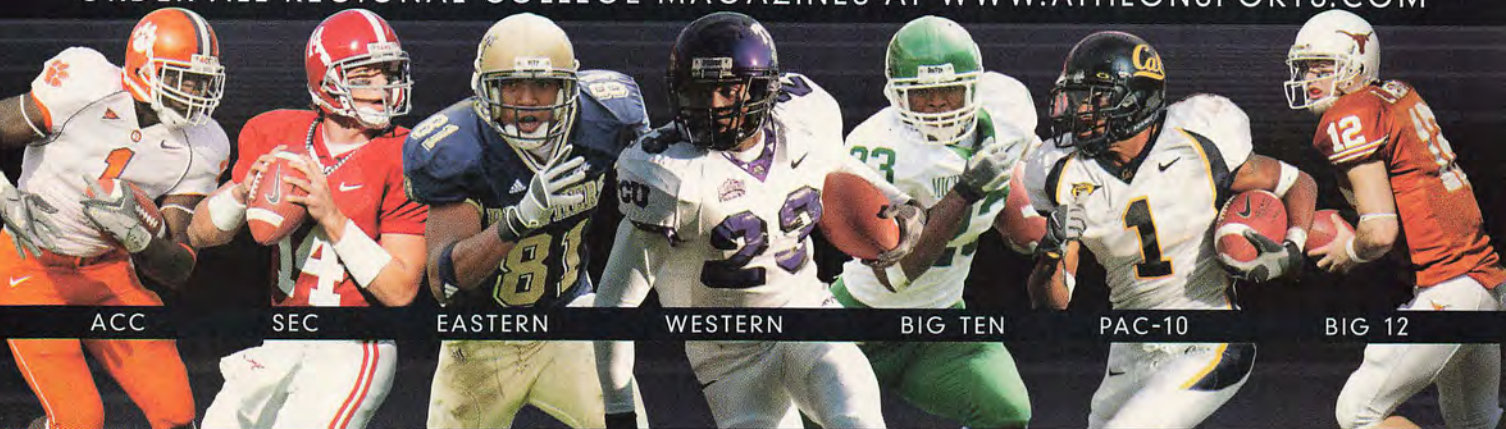
90 Complete Team Previews and Analyses

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No. 1 USC

With 15 starters back from last season, including 10 on defense, along with most of the top backups and another stellar recruiting class, Pete Carroll's crew should roll from Sept. 1 through Dec. 1 and beyond. [more!](#)

MORE FEATURES

Vacchiano: Patriots are the favorites in '07
No. 24: Canes put faith in Shannon
Around the AL: Into/Out of the collar
Munroe: Singh leads at season's halfway point
No. 25: Blake, defense fuel TCU in 2007
Short Hops: Five for the report books
O'Neill: Mockingham, Harmon officially an item
Around the NL: Glavinis struggles vs. Smoltz

PRESEASON TOP 25

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25. TCU
24. Miami
23. Texas A&M
22. Oregon State
21. Auburn
20. Tennessee
19. Hawaii
18. Nebraska
17. Penn State
16. Georgia
15. UCLA
14. Georgia Tech
13. Louisville
12. Ohio State
11. California
10. Rutgers
9. Virginia Tech
8. Michigan
7. Oklahoma
6. Florida
5. West Virginia
4. Wisconsin
3. LSU
2. Texas
1. USC

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short HOPS

Golf Perspectives
Every Wednesday, Dan O'Neill examines the storylines on the PGA Tour and previews the weekend ahead.

Short Hops
Alex Gordon and George Brett have something else in common while Bobby Cox can set a record. Short Hops has your scoop.

Richmond Track Preview
Richmond features a return to the short tracks with the Car of Tomorrow. Get your track preview here.

MORE FROM ATHLON SPORTS

Vacchiano: Patriots are the favorites in '07
A lot of things can change between now and next February. But the events of draft weekend, and some of the events of the two months before, have Ralph Vacchiano convinced that the Pats are the early favorite to win Super Bowl XLII.

No. 24: Canes put faith in Shannon
Miami enters this season after a tumultuous 2006. New head coach Randy Shannon will attempt to restore the Hurricanes' winning tradition while piecing together the university's shattered public perception.

Around the AL: Into/Out of the collar
The AL East looks fairly familiar, but the Yankees fall into last place this far into the season has been a little out of the ordinary. No one's enjoying it more than the emerging Devil Rays — well, maybe the Red Sox.

2007 EDITORIAL LINEUP

What To Look For This Summer Web Video: Conference Preview Shows

Begins June 13: Senior Editor Mitchell Light provides highlights, analysis, commentary and predictions for the BCS conferences and the 2007 Preseason Top 25 in brand new Web Video format.

Live Chat Thursdays

Begins June 14: Athlon Sports editors will talk College, Pro and Fantasy Football every Thursday afternoon at 2:00 Eastern. Go to AthlonSports.com for a complete schedule.

Heisman Hopefuls

Begins July 9: Athlon's Heisman Watch features the top 25 candidates to hoist the Heisman Trophy.

Podcasts

Listen to insightful analysis of Athlon's Preseason Top 25.

What To Look For This Fall Game Previews For Every Team

Every team. Every game. Every Thursday. Make AthlonSports.com your source for weekly game previews from team No. 1 to 119.

Conference Notebooks

Get BCS conference writeups every Monday chronicling the weekend's action.

Updated Athlon 119

Weekly ranking updates of all 119 Division I-A teams. See who rises and who falls every Monday afternoon.

Fan Games

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You've seen our picks, now it's your turn. Sign up online and select the 11 conference champions and the eventual National Champion. Beat the editors and you could win the Ultimate Fan's Tailgate package, free Athlon magazines and other cool prizes. Correctly predict all 12 winners and you could win \$25,000.

College Football Experts Club

Presented by JVC. It's simple. We lay out 10 of the week's biggest games. Pick the winners and you could win cool prizes.

For 41 years Athlon Sports has been a leader in preseason coverage of college football. Now you can enjoy the same passion and insight on the web before, during and after the season.



Scenes From Saturday

Athlon Sports exclusive college football photography is showcased every Monday in Scenes from Saturday presented by JVC. Soak up the atmosphere surrounding two of the biggest games each week only on AthlonSports.com.

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Her other performance clips will be featured in a photo book to be part of the Athlon Sports 2007 College Football Annual.

Other winners in all of our competitions are winners of the year's competition.

eXtraPOINTS

HEISMAN CONTENDERS: THE A-LIST

**darren
McFADDEN**
ARKANSAS

After a runner-up finish in last year's Heisman race, McFadden enters the season as the front-runner. He rushed for at least 140 yards last season in games against LSU and Auburn, two of the nation's best defenses.

**steve
SLATON**
WEST VIRGINIA

An electrifying back, Slaton scored nine touchdowns on runs of 30 yards or more last season. Quarterback Pat White could steal some of Slaton's thunder, but figure on Slaton being in New York as long as the Mountaineers remain in the BCS hunt.

**john david
BOOTY**
USC

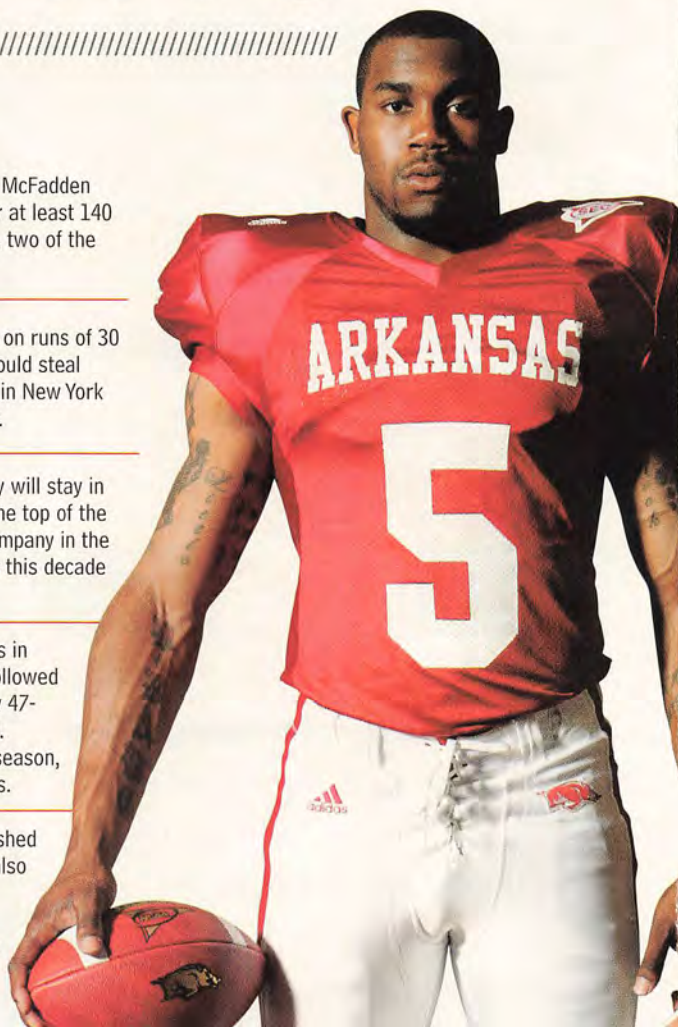
The Trojans should be led by their defense, but Booty will stay in the Heisman discussion as long as USC stays near the top of the polls. Carson Palmer and Matt Leinart could have company in the growing fraternity of Heisman-winning quarterbacks this decade from USC.

**mike
HART**
MICHIGAN

Hart was the nation's only tailback to rush for at least 90 yards in every regular-season game. But he had an uneven finish. He followed a 142-yard rushing effort against Ohio State with a season-low 47-yard performance on the ground against USC in the Rose Bowl. Michigan's offense has an assortment of capable options this season, but expect Hart to amass Heisman-esque numbers nonetheless.

**ray
RICE**
RUTGERS

During a landmark season for the Scarlet Knights, Rice established a Big East single-season record with 1,794 rushing yards. He also was the only running back to rush for more than 100 yards against West Virginia's defense in the regular season. With fullback Brian Leonard gone, even more of the onus will fall on the shoulders of Rice, who has a chance to lead Rutgers to a BCS game.



HEISMAN CONTENDERS: THE B-LIST

Brian Brohm, QB, Louisville

Brohm could have been the third quarterback taken in the NFL Draft, but he decided to return to school to make a final run at a national championship. His coach, Bobby Petrino, has moved on. So has his star running back, Michael Bush. But Brohm has enough talent at wide receiver to fill his shelves with plenty of awards.

Colt Brennan, QB, Hawaii

After throwing an NCAA-record 58 touchdown passes, Brennan decided to delay an NFL payday. The statistics will be there. The question is whether Brennan will garner enough attention playing several time zones away. Hawaii is expected to launch a "Colt for Heisman" campaign for Brennan, but an undefeated season and BCS berth would help even more.

DeSean Jackson, WR, Cal

The speedster has an electrifying quality to his game. He scored seven touchdowns last season that covered at least 40 yards, including four punt returns. With Marshawn Lynch having gone to the NFL, it would be advantageous for coach Jeff Tedford to get the ball into the hands of Jackson as often as possible.

Ian Johnson, RB, Boise State

Despite battling injuries last season, Johnson set a school record with 1,714 rushing yards and led the nation with 25 touchdowns. His two-point conversion was the game-winner in the Broncos' thrilling Fiesta Bowl victory over Oklahoma, but his biggest play came moments later, when he proposed to his girlfriend, BSU cheerleader Chrissy Popadics, on national television.

THE C-LIST

Pat White, QB, West Virginia

P.J. Hill, RB, Wisconsin

Mario Manningham, WR, Michigan

Jonathan Stewart, RB, Oregon

Percy Harvin, WR, Florida

Nate Longshore, QB, Cal

Chad Henne, QB, Michigan

Branden Ore, RB, Virginia Tech

Erik Ainge, QB, Tennessee

Colt McCoy, QB, Texas

Jamaal Charles, RB, Texas

Beanie Wells, RB, Ohio State

Chase Daniel, QB, Missouri

Tashard Choice, RB, Georgia Tech

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RANKING THE CONFERENCES

1 SEC

As if the best conference couldn't get any stronger, enter Nick Saban at Alabama. The conference has a preseason Heisman favorite in Arkansas' Darren McFadden, the defending national champion in Florida and at least eight teams that could be ranked in the Top 25 at some point.

2 PAC-10

USC is stacked, but the Trojans will be challenged by the likes of California, UCLA and Oregon State. This could be the Bruins' year to emerge from the large shadow cast by their cross-city rival.

3 BIG EAST

It would have been unthinkable to rank the Big East this high a few years ago. But West Virginia, Rutgers and Louisville are all capable of reaching the top 10 at some point. South Florida has become a trendy dark horse.

4 BIG TEN

The top three, Wisconsin, Michigan and Ohio State, are all elite teams. The Buckeyes won't fall too much even after losing Troy Smith and Ted Ginn Jr. The Wolverines are loaded with talented skill position players. And Wisconsin's schedule is tougher, but the team could be stronger. Watch out for Iowa, which is looking for a bounce-back year with a schedule that does not include Michigan or Ohio State.

5 BIG 12

The conference could be among the nation's best if its depth becomes evident. Texas is a national title contender, and Nebraska and Texas A&M could surprise. Ron Prince has Kansas State headed in the right direction. Dan Hawkins can't take Colorado anywhere but upwards in the standings.

6 ACC

Virginia Tech looks like the class of the conference and perhaps the only true national title contender in the league. Miami and Florida State are both recovering after last season's disappointment and face different forms of transition. The conference's headliner, Georgia Tech's Calvin Johnson, is gone, but Clemson's James Davis and C.J. Spiller should shine.

7 MOUNTAIN WEST

TCU, led by its dominant defensive line, will field one of the strongest defenses in the nation. With Brian Johnson back under center, Utah should be formidable. BYU will also be strong, even without John Beck at quarterback.

8 WESTERN ATHLETIC

Hawaii is the team outside a power conference with the best chance to crash the BCS party. Boise State will still be strong, but the Broncos' stranglehold atop the WAC may end.

9 CONFERENCE USA

Tulsa must forge ahead without Steve Kragthorpe, but Todd Graham should keep things rolling. Southern Miss is still expected to be strong in large part because of a defense that returns the majority of its playmakers.

10 MID-AMERICAN

Central Michigan lost its coach, Brian Kelly, to Cincinnati, but quarterback Dan LeFevour returns to direct what could be a productive offense. Western Michigan should also be in the conference title hunt.

11 SUN BELT

Troy boasts one of the nation's most underrated talents, dual-threat quarterback Omar Haugabook. Arkansas State and Middle Tennessee, the 2006 co-champ with Troy, will also be factors.



WHO WILL BE THIS YEAR'S BOISE STATE?

» HAWAII

Colt Brennan is back for his final tour through the WAC, and it's conceivable that he could lead the Warriors to a perfect regular-season record. The nation's highest-scoring offense in 2006 also returns wideouts Davone Bess, Jason Rivers and Ryan Grice-Mullen, a trio that combined to catch 214 passes last fall. Hawaii's Nov. 23 showdown with Boise State likely will decide the WAC title and could determine if June Jones' club is BCS-worthy.

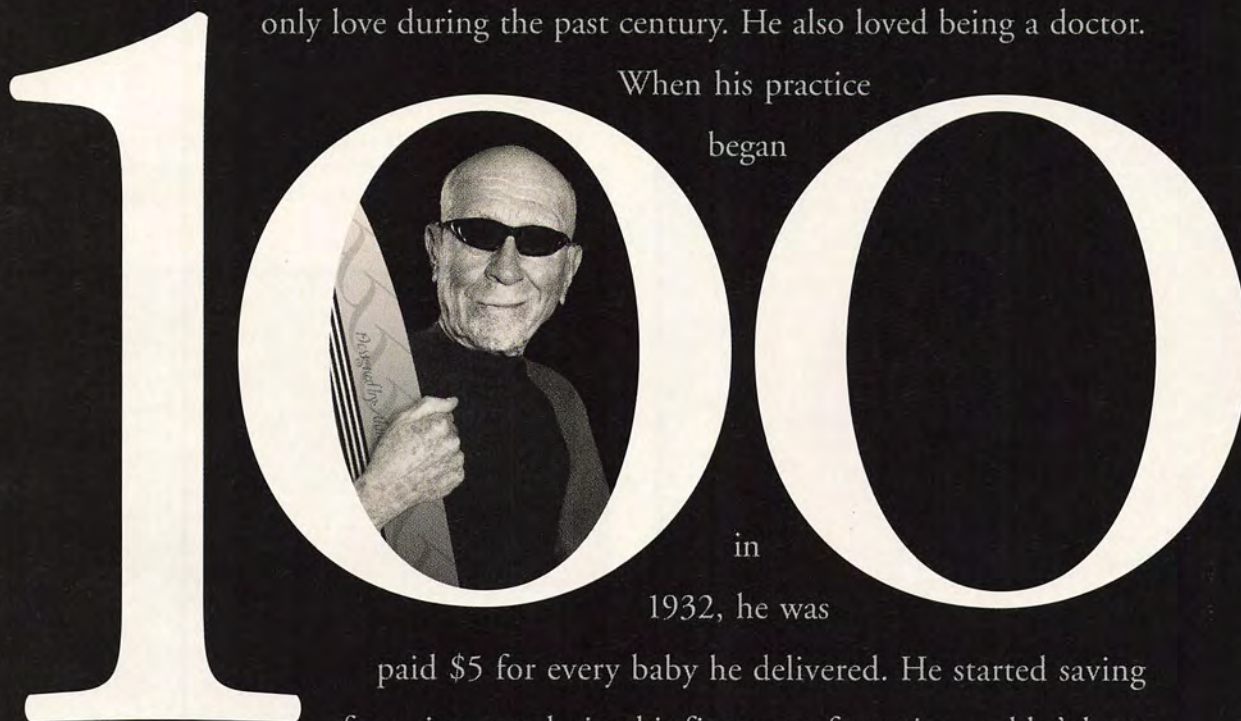
» TCU

The Horned Frogs looked like the best of the non-BCS bunch last summer before losing during the season against BYU and Utah. Still, Gary Patterson's team won its final eight games by an average of 24.4 points, setting the stage for what could be an historic season. After consecutive 11-win seasons, TCU eyes a berth in a BCS game. With nine starters back on a defense that ranked second in the country in total yards allowed, the Frogs have as good a chance as anyone outside a power conference.

» NO ONE

There are reasons why only two schools outside the top six power conferences — Boise State in 2006 and Utah in 2004 — have played in BCS games. There are too many potential stumbling blocks during the season, and schools from non-BCS leagues have virtually no margin for error. Hawaii and TCU are the best of the lot, but one loss likely will eliminate the chances of the Warriors or Horned Frogs playing in one of the top five bowl games.

Three children. Ten grandchildren. Twelve great-grandchildren. And over 4000 hours on water skis. Frank Shearer has loved every hour on skis almost as much as he loves his grandchildren. That's why he's still at it, almost 80 years after he first set foot on the water in 1926. Of course, skiing wasn't his only love during the past century. He also loved being a doctor.



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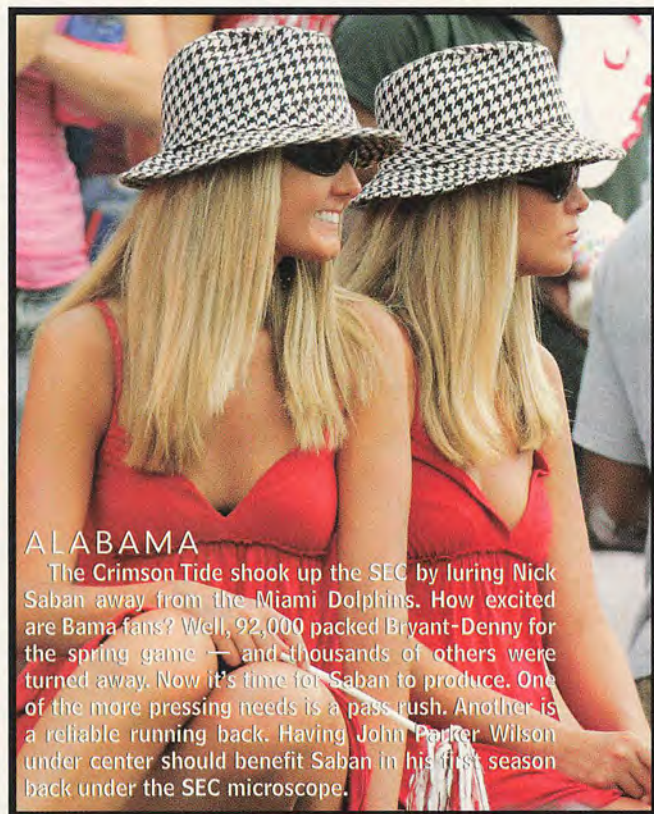
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PROGRAMS

ON THE RISE



ALABAMA

The Crimson Tide shook up the SEC by luring Nick Saban away from the Miami Dolphins. How excited are Bama fans? Well, 92,000 packed Bryant-Denny for the spring game — and thousands of others were turned away. Now it's time for Saban to produce. One of the more pressing needs is a pass rush. Another is a reliable running back. Having John Parker Wilson under center should benefit Saban in his first season back under the SEC microscope.

NORTH CAROLINA

The Tar Heels can only go up under Butch Davis. They will, but it may take a few years. They are thin at tailback and quarterback, but the future looks particularly bright with a signature recruiting class that Davis said might have even exceeded his own expectations.

ILLINOIS

As if returning 15 starters were not good enough, coach Ron Zook also hauled in a recruiting class that attracted national attention. The arrival of athletic receiver Arrelious Benn should help an offense that finished 10th in the Big Ten in scoring last season. Running back Rashard Mendenhall should receive the bulk of the carries, while talented sophomore quarterback Juice Williams looks to improve on an up-and-down first season.

SOUTH FLORIDA

Quarterback Matt Grothe is the prime reason why the Bulls could make a move in the Big East this season. Grothe had a tremendous freshman season, shredding defenses with his legs and his arm. What will help considerably is that Grothe will have some help in the running game. Watch out for freshman running back Mike Ford. No opponent will be surprised by South Florida's rise this year.

OREGON STATE

With 15 returning starters, the Beavers are poised to continue where they left off last season, when they won eight of their last nine games. The 10-win season also included the victory over USC that snapped the Trojans' 27-game conference win streak. The Beavers replace a quarterback, but they have enough offensive weapons to believe they can challenge for the Pac-10 crown.

PROGRAMS

ON THE DECLINE

NORTHERN ILLINOIS

Joe Novak won't have electrifying running back Garrett Wolfe to amass ridiculous rushing yard totals and attract national attention to the program.

AIR FORCE

The first season without Fisher DeBerry on the sideline could be a long one for the Falcons. On the positive side, quarterback Shaun Carney is back, along with several key defensive players.



MICHIGAN STATE

The Spartans failed to win with Drew Stanton, one of the most talented quarterbacks in school history. Mark Dantonio is a solid coach, but don't be surprised if MSU, which has a brutal league slate, flirts with a last-place finish.

FLORIDA STATE

The Seminoles, once a fixture near the top of the rankings, have lost an unthinkable 11 games over the last two years. FSU faithful are hopeful new coordinator Jimbo Fisher can breathe life into an offense that ranked 103rd in the nation in rushing and 70th in total offense.

CLEMSON

Tommy Bowden had arguably the most talented roster in the ACC last year but still lost three games in a down year for the league. It's time for this program to live up to its vast potential.



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EXTRA POINTS

TOP FRESHMEN

JIMMY CLAUSEN, NOTRE DAME

You may have heard of this guy. He never lost a high school game in which he started. He has been compared to a high school football version of LeBron James. He became Notre Dame's most celebrated quarterback recruit since Ron Powlus. He now has the daunting task of trying to live up to the hype.

JOE MCKNIGHT, USC

Coach Pete Carroll has no shortage of tailbacks this season, but odds are McKnight will find his way onto the field in some capacity. He is fast and elusive; the only question is his size (barely 6'0" and 195 pounds). Remember, Reggie Bush was not very big either when he arrived. McKnight traveled all the way from Louisiana to be a star in L.A.

MARVIN AUSTIN, NORTH CAROLINA

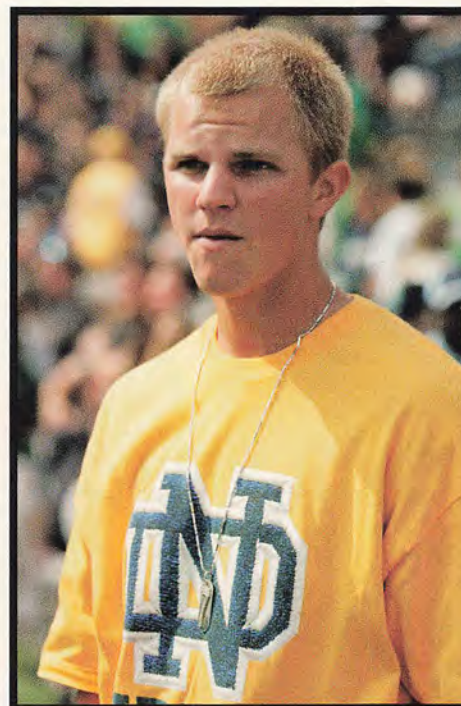
The defensive tackle from Washington, D.C., is the linchpin of the first recruiting class for Butch Davis at North Carolina. Austin's arrival gives the Tar Heels instant credibility. Austin has power and speed, plus a strong work ethic.

EVERSON GRIFFEN, USC

The defensive end has been called "Super Freak," and for good reason. He has also been called the best player ever to come from Arizona. A speedy rusher with a great first step, Griffen is the most unique talent Pete Carroll says he has encountered at USC.

ERIC BERRY, TENNESSEE

Blessed with speed and strength, Berry is a future star in Tennessee's secondary. He chose the school where his father, James, played in the late 1970s. As the nation's top-rated high school cornerback, Berry should make an immediate impact.



CLOCKWORK

The NCAA's rules oversight panel should be applauded for approving changes this spring that turned the clock back to 2005. In the end, common sense prevailed in what should be considered a victory for players and coaches, as well as for all fans who enjoy late-game drama.

The game clock will now stop on possession changes, and it will not start on kickoffs until the receiving team touches the ball. (The oversight panel also moved kickoffs to the 30-yard line from the 35.)

Just a year ago, the NCAA implemented what it considered minor clock changes in an attempt to shorten games. But there were unintended consequences. Several prominent coaches immediately panned the changes, which had major strategic drawbacks.

While games were cut by roughly 14 minutes, an average of almost 14 plays were lost. More than anything, the changes diminished the chances of late-game rallies. Precious seconds elapsed on kickoffs before anyone touched the ball; winning teams with the ball could let the clock run after a change of possession, forcing losing teams to burn timeouts.

In the season before the clock rules were initially changed, USC beat Notre Dame in the regular season and Texas beat USC in the national title game in two contests that were both incredibly long and unforgettable classics because of dramatic endings. Now that the NCAA has reverted to the rules of 2005, there is a better chance for similar heart-stopping endings.

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RANKING THE NEW COACHES OF 2006

We've ranked the job performance of each of the 10 first-year coaches from 2006, from best to worst.

1. TODD GRAHAM, RICE

Before: 1-10 (1-7) After: 7-6 (6-2)

Graham guided the Owls to their first winning season since 2001 and their first bowl game since 1961. He did so well that he is no longer the head coach at Rice. Tulsa, where he served as defensive coordinator for three seasons, came calling after losing Graham's old boss, Steve Kragthorpe, to Louisville.

2. CHRIS PETERSEN, BOISE STATE

Before: 9-4 (7-1) After: 13-0 (8-0)

Not much went wrong in Petersen's first season as a head coach. The Broncos won the WAC title and then capped off their unbeaten season with a thrilling overtime win over Oklahoma in the Fiesta Bowl.

3. BRETT BIELEMA, WISCONSIN

Before: 10-3 (5-3) After: 12-1 (7-1)

Taking over for a legend is supposed to be a difficult task, but Bielema and the Badgers cruised to a 12-1 record in their first season without Barry Alvarez on the sideline. Wisconsin capped the year by beating a very good Arkansas team 17-14 in the Capital One Bowl.

4. RICK STOCKSTILL, MIDDLE TENNESSEE

Before: 4-7 (3-4) After: 7-6 (6-1)

Stockstill was the right coach at the right time for a Middle Tennessee program eager to make a move in the Sun Belt. The Blue Raiders shared the Sun Belt title with Troy and played in a bowl game (Motor City) for the first time since moving up to Division I-A.

5. RON PRINCE, KANSAS STATE

Before: 5-6 (2-6) After: 7-6 (4-4)

Prince's gutsy decision to go with true freshman Josh Freeman paid off; the Wildcats went 4-3 in the Big 12 with Freeman under center and knocked off Texas 45-42 in a program-defining game.

6. DENNIS ERICKSON, IDAHO

Before: 2-9 (2-6) After: 4-8 (3-5)

The Vandals took a step forward during Erickson's second tour of duty in Moscow, but the controversial coach won't be around to finish the job. He bolted for Arizona State in early December.

7. AL GOLDEN, TEMPLE

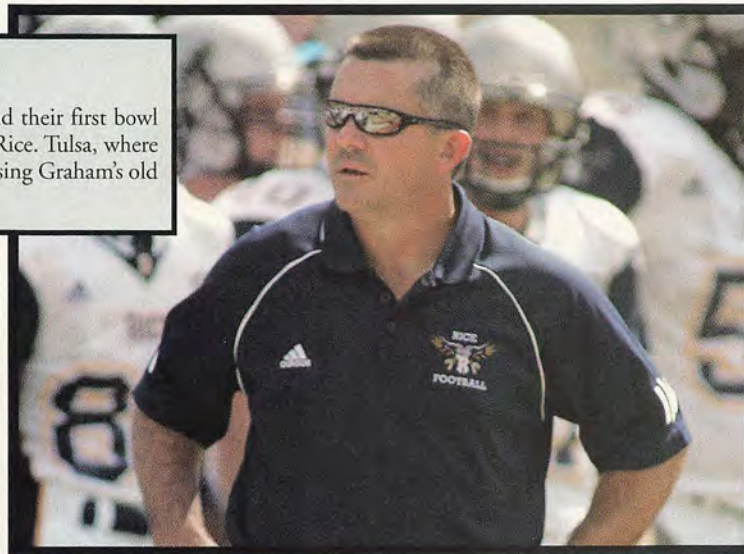
Before: 0-11 After: 1-11

Don't be fooled by the record and the lopsided scores: Temple football is in much better shape after one season of Golden's tenure. It might take a few years, but the Owls will be competitive in the MAC.

8. CHUCK LONG, SAN DIEGO STATE

Before: 5-7 (4-4) After: 3-9 (3-5)

The sleeping giant on the West Coast is still asleep. The Aztecs' 3-9 record included an 0-6 mark on the road and an inexplicable loss at home to Division I-AA Cal Poly.



9. TURNER GILL, BUFFALO

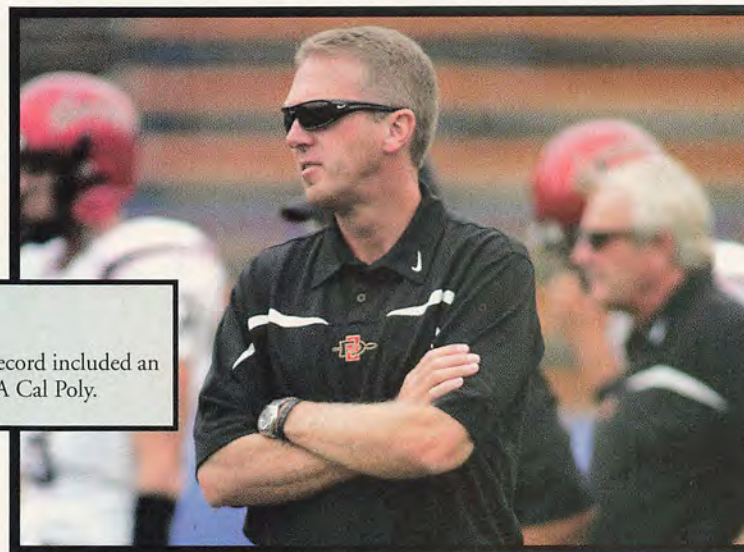
Before: 1-10 (1-7) After: 2-10 (1-7)

There were some highs — a season-opening overtime win over Temple and a stunning 41-14 victory over Kent State — but far more lows for the former Husker All-American. The Bulls ranked 109th in the nation in total offense and 100th in total defense.

10. DAN HAWKINS, COLORADO

Before: 7-6 (5-3) After: 2-10 (2-6)

The Buffs played better as the season progressed, but Hawkins' first season in Boulder was a complete debacle. His tenure began with a shocking loss at home to Division I-AA Montana State — a team that lost to Division II Chadron State the next week.



UNDERRATED COACHES

Few coaches have been to the White House as often as Johnson, who has made a visit with his team each of the past four seasons after Navy has won the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy. Navy is 8-0 the past four years against the service academies.

Boise State did not exactly take a step back when Dan Hawkins left for Colorado. Petersen not only led the Broncos to an undefeated regular season but also an unforgettable Fiesta Bowl victory over Oklahoma in one of the most entertaining bowl games ever played.

Cubit has won 15 games in his two seasons as the boss at Western Michigan — that's 14 more than the Broncos won the season before he arrived. He has an offensive background, but Western Michigan has been getting it done with defense. Last fall, the Broncos ranked 11th in the nation in total defense.

Bielema's performance last year was slightly overshadowed because two other Big Ten teams, Ohio State and Michigan, challenged for the national title all year. But Bielema, who was the second-youngest coach in Division I-A, became only the third first-year coach to lead his team to 12 victories.

The Fridge was highly regarded when he won at least 10 games in his first three seasons in College Park. Then came back-to-back losing campaigns, prompting some to jump off the bandwagon. After a resurgent nine-win season in 2006, Friedgen again has the program pointed in the right direction.

The Trojans are 29-31 since moving up to Division I-A in 2002. But last season they won their first Sun Belt title and their first bowl game, hammering Rice in the New Orleans Bowl. Ask Bobby Bowden about Troy. Florida State needed two late touchdowns to avoid an upset last year.

UNDERRATED PLAYERS

Blake, who originally came to TCU as a tailback, led the Mountain West Conference last season with 16.5 tackles for a loss and tied for the league lead with seven sacks. Blake and Chase Ortiz create a formidable defensive end combo.

What didn't Dillard do last season? He established both school and conference single-season records with 21 touchdown receptions. He became Rice's first All-America receiver since Buddy Dial in 1958. And he has caught a touchdown pass in 15 consecutive games.

Coach Mike Riley calls Bernard the heart and soul of his offense because of his ability to run, catch passes and effectively block. Bernard is a workhorse who has amassed back-to-back 1,000-yard rushing seasons.

The Tigers' leading returning receiver had a tremendous spring game and could be poised to become one of the nation's elite playmakers. He has speed, leaping ability and big-play potential. Two years ago, Doucet caught a 39-yard game-winning touchdown pass to help LSU beat Arizona State in the first game after Hurricane Katrina.

Grothe had one of the best freshman seasons of any player in the country last year. He finished third in the Big East in passing yards and 10th in rushing yards. Grothe expects to be 100 percent after suffering a hairline fracture in his right leg during the PapaJohns.com Bowl.

COACHES ON THE HOT SEAT

Phillip Fulmer, Tennessee

The Vols haven't won an SEC title since their national championship season of 1998. Speculation around Fulmer only increased in the spring when athletic director Mike Hamilton told a sports talk radio station that Fulmer would not be getting a raise. Quarterback Erik Ainge is back, but Fulmer has some holes to fill on the defensive line.

Ed Orgeron, Ole Miss

Bring back David Cutcliffe? It's an important year for Orgeron to show some improvement in Oxford. The offense can't be much worse after finishing last in the SEC in passing offense, scoring offense and total offense. On a positive note, the offensive line should be better.

Al Groh, Virginia

Strong recruiting classes haven't translated into as much success on the field the past few years as Cavalier fans would have hoped. UVA lost five of its first seven games last season.

Tommy Bowden, Clemson

Bowden has a spot reserved for him almost every year on the hot seat. The Tigers lost four of their final five games last season, putting Bowden in a familiar place entering this year.

Tyrone Willingham, Washington

Willingham has won seven games in two years at Washington. A promising start last season was undone when the Huskies lost six of their last seven games. The Huskies have an opportunity to get off to a good start again this year, as they open with Syracuse.

TOP ASSISTANTS

Dan Mullen, Florida

Florida scored 41 points in the BCS national title game against an Ohio State defense that had allowed less than 11 points per game. What's more, Mullen put quarterback Chris Leak in position to complete his first nine passes and look like the best quarterback on the field.

Al Borges, Auburn

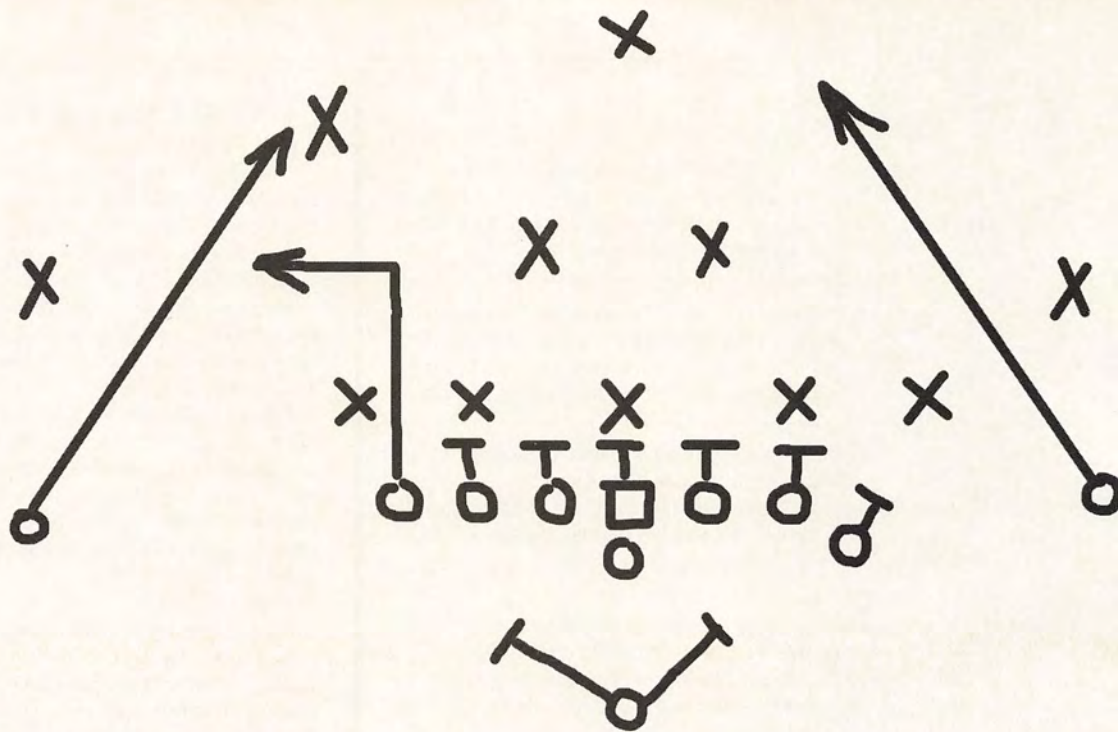
Borges has been regarded as one of the best offensive coordinators over the past few years. Auburn's offense thrived during its undefeated season in 2004 and also performed well the following year after losing its noted backfield. It will need to improve this season after struggling to score points last year.

Steve Sarkisian, USC

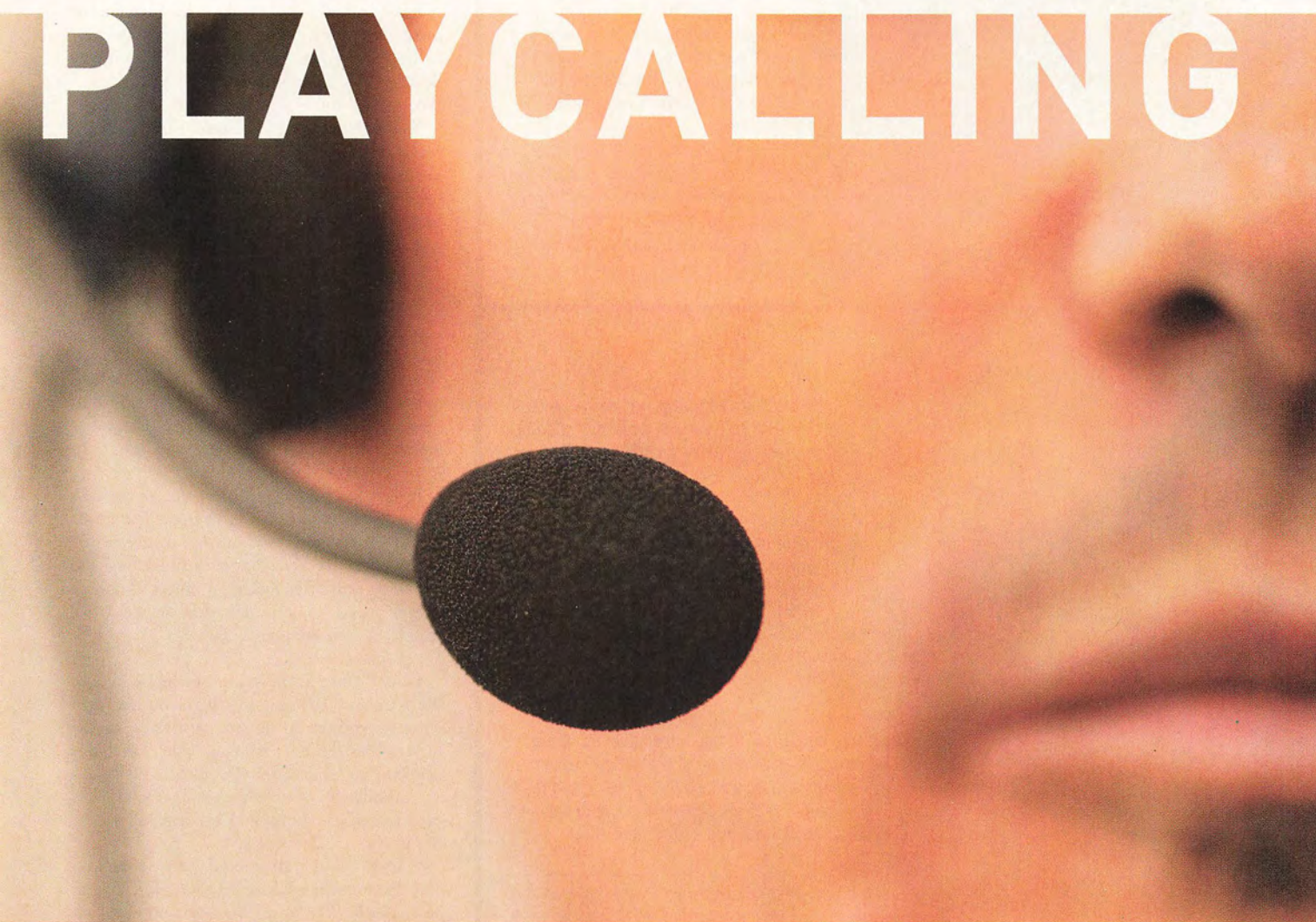
Lane Kiffin has moved on to the sideline of the Oakland Raiders, leaving Sarkisian with what is expected to be sole possession of the play-calling duties. Sarkisian, who will likely continue to work from the sideline, will have an abundance of talented tailbacks and an experienced quarterback at his disposal.

Bryan Harsin, Boise State

Harsin was promoted to offensive coordinator when Chris Petersen took over as head coach. The result has been nothing but perfection, culminating in an unforgettable victory over Oklahoma in the Fiesta Bowl that included trick plays and offensive precision.



PLAYCALLING



BY JIM YOUNG

It's so unfair. The rigid rules of football dictate that if the ball isn't snapped before the 25-second play clock winds down to zero, then the officials are obligated to toss out a yellow flag and penalize the offense for delay of game.

A penalty? Just for taking a little bit longer than 25 seconds to get from one play to the next? If the referees really knew what went into calling each offensive play, they'd be a little more charitable. Yellow flags for delay would be replaced by merit badges for efficiency.

"It's a pressure-cooker," says Wake Forest offensive coordinator Steed Lobotzke. "People watching the game maybe don't realize how fast that 25-second clock is."

Or how much thought and action has to be squeezed into that time frame.

"We track every personnel grouping, we track every formation, then we also track every play. In concert with that, we're charting every defensive front, every coverage, every blitz."

— Purdue co-offensive coordinator Bill Legg



WHERE AM I?

As soon as the ball-carrier is uncovered from a pile of defenders, and both teams return to their respective huddles, the playcallers all ask the same question.

"What's my down and distance?"

Beforehand all offensive coordinators have subdivided their "call sheets," the laminated piece of paper that includes all their plays, into different sections depending on what down it is and how many more yards are needed for a first down. There is a set of plays to be called if the team is in 2nd-and-long, a set for 2nd-and-short, a set for 3rd-and-5 or 6, and so on.

"Football is a situational game," says Frank Cignetti, the former offensive coordinator at North Carolina and Fresno State. "All playcallers try to cover the different situations."

The situations aren't just limited to the mundane down and distance. A well-organized call sheet will also take into account where the ball is on the field. After all, 3rd-and-7 from your own 25 isn't the same as 3rd-and-7 from the opponent's 18. The amount of room to operate changes, and often a defense that had been passive and reactive in the open field will show its teeth when backed against its goal line.

"In the red zone, I used to tell my staff, if you don't get blitzed this down, you will next down," says Boston College offensive coordinator Steve Logan. "So every call we make in the red zone is blitz prepared."

Red zone is the standard vernacular for the area of the field inside the opponents' 20-yard line. It's one of many section headers an offensive coordinator will glance over before making his play call. There are cautious plays to be called when the offense is backed up, or "coming out" of its own end zone, as some coordinators will dub it. There are aggressive play calls for the area around midfield, which bears names like the "strike zone" or the "free-wheeling zone."

Some coordinators can even take the whole subdivision thing a step further. When former NC State coordinator Marc Trestman was with the San Francisco 49ers and the Oakland Raiders, he had a section of his call sheet set aside for plays designed for Jerry Rice.

"If I felt like we weren't getting him the ball, I would make sure we got him a play," Trestman says.

Getting to the right subsection of the play chart is just step one in the process. Now the offensive coordinator needs to figure out which play to choose from that subset. That requires more information.

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

That information comes from multiple sources, usually far above the field. Offensive plays are charted; defensive fronts, blitzes and coverages are tracked. A couple of position coaches and a few graduate assistants sitting in the press box are usually in charge of compiling all the data.

"We track every personnel grouping, we track every formation, then we also track every play," says Purdue co-offensive coordinator Bill Legg. "In concert with that, we're charting every defensive front, every coverage, every blitz."

The key, according to Logan, is to have your "eyes organized." Your assistants can't watch the game like a spectator. Each has to be focused on a very specific portion of the field. Typically the offensive line coach and another assistant will track what's going on with the offensive line. A wide receiver coach will often handle different coverage schemes. Or perhaps he'll watch his own wideouts and a grad assistant will chart coverage schemes. In Logan's case, he's usually the one watching what's going on with the quarterback — when he doesn't have his head buried in his call sheet.

"What you do from the press box is you try to gather as much information as possible," Cignetti says. "Hey, they're doing this, so maybe we should try this."

If a playcaller knows, for example, that the strong safety is constantly creeping up toward the line in run support, it might just be time to call a play-action pass and throw a deep one over the middle. Or maybe a screen pass is just the thing to slow down those blitzing linebackers on third down. The more information the offensive coordinator has, the more likely he is to find a play that will exploit the defense's tendencies and the less likely he is to fall into a pattern with his own playcalling.

SWEET SILENCE

That information, though, is rarely shared between offensive plays.

"We try to do most of our conversations about ideas when we're off the field," Lobotzke says. "You don't have enough time when you're on the field."

When the offense is on the field and the offensive coordinator is bent over his call-sheet, searching for the next play, he prefers silence through his headset.

"Guys just don't say something to say something," says Boise State offensive coordinator Bryan Harsin. "It's very specific. And if it can wait, it waits."

If an assistant has something very critical to point out — perhaps an obvious coverage tip-off by the defense that can be immediately exploited — he might risk disturbing the playcaller's reverie. And of course, the head coach — who holds a duplicate copy of the offensive coordinator's call sheet — always has the right to chime in with a suggestion, whenever he wants. Yet even Purdue coach Joe Tiller, with his reputation as an offensive guru, keeps a low profile when the Boilermakers' offense is on the field.

"If he gets a gut feeling, especially when it comes to the special plays, he might say, 'Billy, don't forget this,'" Legg says. "Otherwise, he doesn't say much."

TIME FOR CHANGE

The time for talking comes when the defense is on the field, or during halftime. That's when the offensive coaching staff will put their headsets together and start sharing information. They'll pour over the charts and the stats they have feverishly compiled from multiple sources. It's a way of separating from the emotion of the game and taking a more clinical, dispassionate approach to the offense.

"Stats tell you the truth, as opposed to the impression you get," Logan says. "You've got to work on that at halftime — see what's really happening to you."

Truthfully though, the time for figuring out the strengths of your offense and the weak links in the defense really comes earlier in the week, during practice. Once the game starts, there's only so much an offensive coordinator can change.

"You're never going to go into a game and just scrap the first half of your game plan," Harsin says. "It has to be minor adjustments."

If an opponent is blitzing a bunch in certain situations, a mental note is made to start mixing in a screen pass or a trap. Perhaps the wide receivers coach has noticed that the cornerback is struggling against the flanker in press coverage. Or maybe more runs should be called behind the left guard, who is dominating his matchup against the opposing defensive lineman.

If there are no adjustments to be made, it's either a sign that things are going really, really well, or ...

"What you hope is that they're not kicking your whole team's butts," Legg says.

THINK OUTSIDE THE SHEET

Back when Cignetti was in his first year as the offensive coordinator at Fresno State, he sent in a non-red zone play even though the Bulldogs were inside the opponent's 20 yard line.

"Whoa, whoa, whoa!" came the voice of head coach Pat Hill over Cignetti's headset. "Do you realize where you are on the field?"

"Coach," Cignetti replied. "Just because I have (a play) listed in one area doesn't mean I won't call it in another."

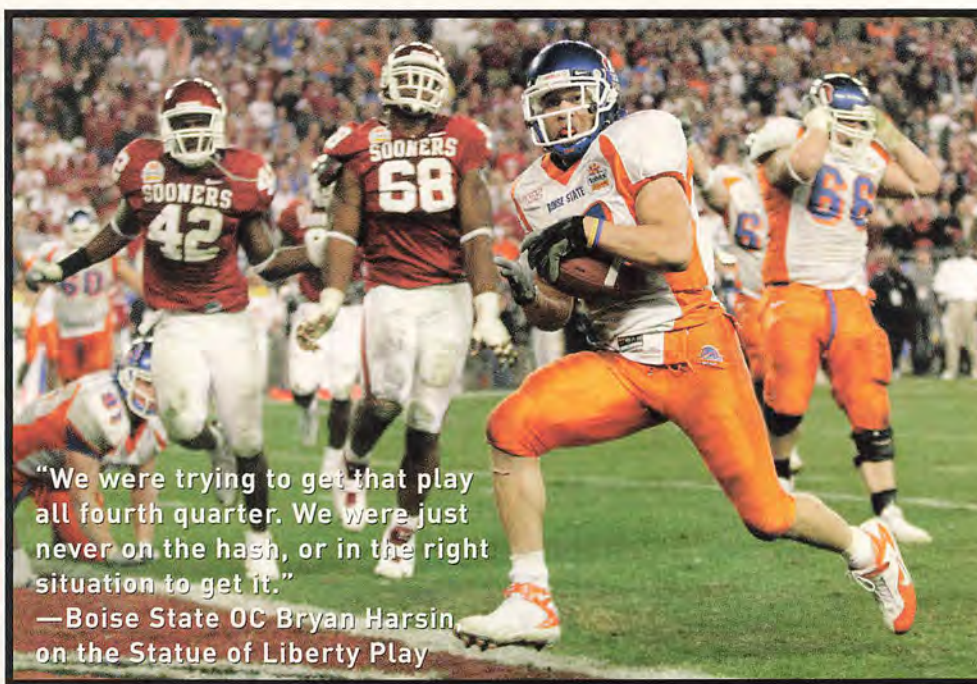
It's what Logan terms the "artistic" side of playcalling, the extra twist that might just separate the best playcallers from the also-rans. Even though countless hours are spent in preparation, and so much meticulous care is put into devising a call sheet for every situation,

"It was like, 'Yeah! Here we go!'" Harsin says.

The hook and lateral was the hunch that paid off. The last play of the game, the Statue of Liberty that Boise State ran for the game-winning two-point conversion, was what offensive coordinators live for — the perfectly set-up play call at the perfect time. While running a quick screen earlier in the game, the Broncos' coaches noticed how quickly Oklahoma's defenders swarmed to the ball. They figured a fake screen pass and hand off to running back Ian Johnson would work beautifully — at some point.

"We were trying to get that play all fourth quarter," Harsin says. "We were just never on the hash, or in the right situation to get it."

In overtime the right situation came along. The rest is playcalling history.



sometimes an offensive coordinator has to push aside the mountain of information in his brain and just feel what play should be called in a certain situation.

"You can't just say, 'This is my call sheet, I'm sticking to it — end of story,'" Lobotzke says.

The shining example of what a playcaller can do with the right hunch at the right time came in the Fiesta Bowl, when Boise State pulled off a hook-and-lateral play to tie Oklahoma in the waning moments of regulation.

The inspiration came with Boise State facing a 4th-and-18 from the 50 yard line, as Harsin and head coach Chris Petersen — the Broncos' offensive coordinator before Harsin — were discussing their limited options. Suddenly, one of them — Harsin won't say who — piped up with "Hey, what about Circus here?" Circus was the Broncos' name for their hook-and-lateral play. The response was immediate.

WHO'S IN?

Whether the play comes straight from a box on the call sheet or from divine inspiration, it still has to make its way in to the quarterback. And the 25-second play clock is still ticking.

First, the offensive coordinator calls out what personnel group he needs. Each team has an assistant coach — usually a running backs or wide receivers coach — who has the primary responsibility of rounding up the right players and getting them on the field. Any mistakes here and a delay of game or illegal procedure penalty is a likely outcome.

Since the task of organizing a group of adrenaline-fueled 18-to-22-year-olds has its obvious difficulties, a premium is placed on making the personnel groupings simple.

Logan prefers to use a two-digit number system. The first number is the number of running backs in the backfield. The second is



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LIGHTER**

the number of tight ends on the line. Given that all formations will have five offensive linemen and a quarterback already, everything else can be figured out from there. So if Logan calls out "21" over the headsets — and the assistant coach barks out that number on the sidelines — everyone knows that the next formation will have two running backs, one tight end and, by performing a little simple math, two receivers as well. Calling out "11" will produce a one-back set with one tight end and three wideouts, while "10" would mean one back, no tight ends and four receivers, and so on. The players already have their designations going into the game, so they know whether they are the No. 1 wideout or are only on the field when the team goes to a four-receiver look, for example.

It's a streamlined system that, of course, can really get thrown off if a skill position player gets injured. That sends coaches scrambling to reassign duties to multiple players before mass confusion takes hold.

"An injury will have you speaking in tongues quickly," Logan says.

TRANSLATING

Next comes the play call. Sometimes it's the actual terminology of the play. Sometimes, like reading a Chinese menu, it's just a number. In that case, the quarterback then looks at a wristband with plays listed on it that correspond to the number that's been signaled in. It's an approach that Cignetti used at UNC, thanks to advice from his former pupil, Carolina Panthers quarterback Jake Delhomme.

"He said, 'Cig, you've got to go with the wrist band,'" Cignetti recalls. "All he has to do is get his number and read it."

Cignetti, like many offensive coordinators, makes his play call from up in the press box. Once his orders reach field level, two people — often backup quarterbacks — signal in the play. Teams always use multiple signals, with one being the actual call and the other a fake, or "dummy" signal.



Trestman prefers a more streamlined approach. He is on the sidelines during the game — cutting out one step of the playcalling process — and is one of the people giving signals as well. "If a mistake is made, I want it to be my mistake," Trestman says. "It's like a game of telephone if I give it to someone else. They may interpret it differently than I do."

HUT! HUT!

The play is in. The ball is snapped.

"When it's called, it's like a loaded gun, you pull the trigger," Harsin says. "There's nothing you can do about it now. It's on those kids."

Those kids, and the kids trying to stop them, can be a wildly variable element in the science of playcalling. That simple off-tackle run designed to get four yards on first down might break for 35 instead. The safe three-step drop on 2nd-and-3 could instead end up in a scramble, sack and loss of 13.

No matter. While thousands in the stands are groaning or cheering in unison, the offensive coordinator is bent over his call sheet. He's already picked out two plays — one to use if the previous play worked, one to use if it didn't.

"You do not have time as a coach, especially as a playcaller, to linger long on the result of the last play," Legg says. "Because there's a new play coming up."

The 25-second clock is starting again.

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Whatever happened to Athlon Sports'... TOP 40 RECRUITS of 2002



VINCE
YOUNG

(1)

Quarterback • Houston, TX • Texas

Capped off a brilliant junior season with one of the finest big-game performances in the history of college football in Texas' 41-38 win over USC in the 2006 Rose Bowl. **After leading the Horns to the national championship, he declared for the NFL Draft and was selected by the Tennessee Titans with the third overall pick.** Young guided the Titans to an 8-5 record as the starting quarterback and was named the **NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year.**

RYAN
MOORE

(2)

Wide Receiver • Orlando, FL • Miami

Enjoyed a solid season as a redshirt freshman in 2003 (44 catches, 637 yards) but caught only 49 passes over his final three seasons in Coral Gables. Suspended for the first eight games of his senior season. **Was not selected in the 2007 draft.**

LORENZO
BOOKER

(3)

Running Back • Ventura, CA • Florida State

Put up solid numbers but never emerged as an elite ball-carrier. Rushed for a career-high 887 yards (5.1-yard average) as a sophomore in 2004 and ended his career with 2,389 yards rushing and 995 yards receiving. **Selected by Miami in the third round of the 2007 draft.**

RODRIQUE
WRIGHT

(4)

Defensive Lineman • Houston, TX • Texas

Four-year starter was a **first-team All-America selection as a senior**, when he helped the Longhorns to the national title. **Earned first-team All-Big 12 honors twice, second-team honors once and was named the league's Defensive Freshman of the Year in 2002.** Slipped down to the seventh round of the 2006 draft, where he was grabbed by the Miami Dolphins.

GERALD
RIGGS JR.

(5)

Running Back • Chattanooga, TN • Tennessee

Struggled with off-the-field and injury issues during his four-year career. **Ended his career 13th on Tennessee's all-time rushing list with 1,893 yards.** After not being selected in the 2005 draft, he signed a free agent contract with the Dolphins but was cut in September.

CHRIS
DAVIS

(6)

Wide Receiver • St. Petersburg, FL • Florida State

Never emerged as a consistent big-play threat. Recorded only three 100-yard games in his four-year career, and he never scored more than one TD in a game. **Received honorable mention All-ACC honors as a senior in 2006.** Selected by Tennessee in the fourth round of the '07 draft.

CIATRICK
FASON

(7)

Running Back • Neptune Beach, FL • Florida

Took over as the full-time starter as a junior. Went on to lead the SEC in rushing with 1,267 yards and added 10 TDs on the ground. He earned **first-team All-SEC honors from the AP and second-team from the coaches.** Left school with one year of eligibility remaining and was **selected by Minnesota in the fourth round of the 2005 draft.**



BEN
OLSON

(8)

Quarterback • Thousand Oaks, CA • BYU

After sitting out the 2002 season as a redshirt, Olson left BYU for a two-year LDS Church mission. He re-opened his recruitment upon his return to the U.S. and eventually signed with UCLA. Olson spent his redshirt freshman season in 2005 backing up Drew Olson (no relation) before ascending to the top spot on the Bruins' depth chart heading into '06. Playing on a regular basis for the first time since 2001 (his senior season in high school) Olson led UCLA to a 3-1 start that included wins over Utah, Rice and Stanford. His season, however, came to an abrupt end in Week 5 against Arizona when he tore a ligament in his left knee. Olson completed 63.7 percent of his passes for 822 yards with five touchdowns and five interceptions. **He will head into fall practice No. 1 on the depth chart.**

MAX
JEAN-GILLES

(9)

Offensive Lineman • Miami, FL • Georgia

The prize of Mark Richt's first full recruiting class at Georgia. Three-year starter was a **three-time first-team All-SEC pick by the league's coaches and a consensus All-America selection as a senior in 2005.** Started at tackle in 2003 before moving to guard for his final two seasons. Georgia won three SEC East titles and participated in two Sugar Bowls during his four-year career. **Selected by Philadelphia in the fourth round of the 2006 NFL Draft.**

MIKE
D'ANDREA

(10)

Linebacker • Avon Lake, OH • Ohio State

Made only one start in his injury-plagued career with the Buckeyes. Remained relatively healthy throughout his first two seasons. Started the opener against Cincinnati in 2004 but then hurt his knee a few weeks later in practice. Played sparingly in one more game that season after the injury and played in only three games (for a total of four minutes of action) in October 2005 due to ongoing knee problems. D'Andrea was granted a fifth year of eligibility by the NCAA, but Ohio State announced in late August that he would be undergoing another knee surgery that would end his career as a Buckeye. **He was not selected in the 2007 Draft but hoped to land with a team as a free agent.**

LARRY
DIBBLES

11

Defensive Lineman • Lancaster, TX • Texas

Emerged as a starter as a junior in 2004 and earned **second-team All-Big 12 honors by the AP and league coaches**. Did not start as a senior during Texas' run to the 2005 national title but played a key role as part of a three-man rotation at tackle with Rodrique Wright and Frank Okam. Only 14 tackles for a loss and 2.5 sacks during his four years.

REGGIE
MCNEAL

12

Quarterback • Lufkin, TX • Texas A&M

Three-year starter who ended his career as the **all-time passing (6,992) and total offense (8,881) leader at Texas A&M**. Went 10–12 as a starter in conference play. **Selected by the Bengals in the sixth round of the NFL Draft** and converted to wide receiver.

PAT
WATKINS

13

Defensive Back • Tallahassee, FL • Florida State

Emerged as a starter at free safety as a junior in 2004. **Earned honorable mention All-ACC honors both seasons as a starter**. Was projected as a second-round pick had he come out after his junior season, but he slipped to the second day after a sub-par 2005 campaign. **Selected by Dallas in the fifth round of the 2006 NFL Draft**.

DELJUAN
ROBINSON

14

Defensive Lineman • Hernando, MS • Mississippi State

Started 29 games in four seasons at defensive tackle and was named **second-team All-SEC by the Associated Press** after recording 34 tackles, including 12.5 for a loss, as a senior in 2006. Only credited with two sacks during his career. Mississippi State went 5–27 in the SEC during his time at MSU. **Not selected in the 2007 NFL Draft**.

NATHAN
RHODES

15

Offensive Lineman • Bakersfield, CA • Washington

The highly touted tackle prospect had a pre-existing back injury coming out of high school. Some schools, like USC and UCLA, backed off him during the recruiting process, but Washington head coach Rick Neuheisel took a chance on Rhodes. It didn't work out. The congenital back problem prevented him from ever suiting up for the Huskies. Rhodes, however, did remain at Washington and has graduated from the University.

BRANDON
JEFFERIES

16

Offensive Lineman • Shelby, NC • Tennessee

Spent two seasons at Tennessee but never played due to eligibility issues. Transferred to North Carolina State but failed to gain his eligibility there, as well. Played for Cleveland (N.C.) Community College in 2004 before transferring to Division II Newberry College. After spending the 2005 season as a reserve, Jefferies started 11 games at right guard for the Indians, who advanced to the second round of the D-II playoffs.

MICHAEL
JOHNSON

17

Running Back • Newport News, VA • Virginia

The speedy tailback did not start a single game in his five years in Charlottesville but did make solid contributions as a kick returner. He finished his career with 787 yards rushing on 146 attempts for a solid 5.4-yard average. He played sparingly as a true freshman in 2002, rushing 26 times for 133 yards. He sat out the '03 campaign as a redshirt, then returned to enjoy his finest season in 2004 as a sophomore (381 yards on 63 carries) but was stuck behind Wali Lundy and Alvin Pearman in the Cavs' crowded backfield.

AHMAD
BROOKS

18

Linebacker • Woodbridge, VA • Virginia

Became a starter as a freshman in 2003 and emerged as one of the top linebackers in college football the following season. As a sophomore, Brooks **earned first-team All-ACC and second-team All-America honors (AP) and was one of three finalists for the Butkus Award**. Was dismissed from the team in March 2006 after he reportedly failed a drug test. **He applied for the NFL Supplemental Draft and was selected by the Bengals in the third round**.

HALOTI
NGATA

19

Defensive Lineman • Salt Lake City, UT • Oregon

One of the most highly touted prep players ever to sign with the Ducks didn't disappoint. Started eight games as a true freshman in 2002 but missed the majority of the '03 campaign after tearing the ACL in his left knee in the opener. Slowed by injuries (knee and hamstring) the following season but came back strong as a fourth-year junior in 2005. He was named the **Pac-10 co-Defensive Player of the Year and earned consensus All-America honors**. Left school with one season of eligibility remaining and was **selected by the Ravens with the 12th pick in the first round of the 2006 NFL Draft**.

LEON
WASHINGTON

20

Athlete • Jacksonville, FL • Florida State

Finished his career 10th on Florida State's all-time rushing list with 2,041 yards, but his collegiate career was a bit of a disappointment. Forced to share the load for most his career with fellow '02 signee Lorenzo Booker, Washington never averaged more than 14 carries per game in a single season. He rushed for a career-high 951 yards and scored seven touchdowns in 2004, earning **second-team All-ACC honors**. **Selected by the Jets in the fourth round of the 2006 NFL Draft**.

ATHLON SPORTS
2002
RECRUITS





WINSTON JUSTICE

Offensive Lineman • Long Beach, CA • USC

Three-year starter at right tackle blocked for three players who won a Heisman Trophy — Carson Palmer, Matt Leinart and Reggie Bush. After starting as a true freshman and sophomore, Justice was forced to sit out the 2004 season due to a student conduct violation. Returned to the team in 2005 and reclaimed his starting right tackle spot. He was never named first- or second-team All-Pac-10 though he **twice earned honorable mention All-Pac-10 honors**. In 2005, three of his fellow linemen received first-team all-conference honors and a fourth was named to the second team. Left school with one season of eligibility remaining and **was picked by the Eagles in the second round of the '06 draft**.

ATHLON SPORTS' **2002** RECRUITS

DEREK MORRIS

Offensive Lineman • Huntersville, NC • Ohio State

Enrolled at Ohio State in the fall of 2002 but was never academically cleared by the school. He left Columbus after one semester and enrolled at North Carolina State. Due to an NCAA suspension (for undisclosed violations), he was forced to sit out the first five games of the 2003 season. He worked his way into the rotation and started the final five games of his freshman season. Went on to start at tackle for most of the next two seasons, but he did not receive any all-conference recognition. Morris bypassed his senior season in Raleigh to declare for the NFL Draft but was not selected. Got a look with several teams but has failed to make a roster.

RICARDO HURLEY

Linebacker • Greenwood, SC • South Carolina

Developed into a solid contributor but was never a star in Columbia. Started 22 games during his four-year career, including all 11 as a junior in 2004 and eight of 12 as a senior in '05. After breaking into the rotation as a true freshman in '02, he was expected to take on a larger role as a sophomore, but various injuries limited him to only two starts and 15 total tackles. His final season was his most productive — 57 tackles, including eight for a loss, and two sacks. Never earned any all-conference mention. Went undrafted in 2006 and failed to make a roster as a free agent.

BRYAN PICKRYL

Defensive End • Tulsa, OK • Texas

Promising career was cut short after two seasons due to a shoulder injury. He broke into the starting lineup during the latter part of his freshman season, making starts in the final four games, including the Cotton Bowl win over LSU. Started three of the first four games of the '03 season, but he went down with a shoulder injury in Week 4 against Tulane. He had three shoulder surgeries over the next year-and-a-half and was unable to play again.

DISHON PLATT

Wide Receiver • Punta Gorda, FL • Florida State

After failing to gain admission at Florida State, he enrolled as a partial qualifier at South Florida. Was unable to gain his eligibility at USF and dropped out of school. Platt never played a down of college football. He currently lives in North Port, Fla.

JUSTIN BLALOCK

Offensive Lineman • Plano, TX • Texas

Highly decorated player who **became the first Longhorn to ever start 50 straight games**. Started all four seasons, spending time at tackle and guard. Earned **first-team All-Big 12 honors after each of his final three years and was a consensus All-American and a Outland Award and Lombardi Award finalist as a senior**. **Selected by the Falcons in the second round of the 2007 draft**.

JERIOUS NORWOOD

Running Back • Brandon, MS • Mississippi State

Three-year starter who ended his career as the most accomplished ball-carrier in Mississippi State history. He is the school's **all-time leader in rushing yards** (3,222 on a 5.6-yard average), and he also **holds the record for most yards in a game** (257 vs. Houston in 2005). As a senior, he rushed for 1,136 yards, the third-most in a single season. Never earned first-team All-SEC honors, though he **was a second-team pick by the AP and coaches in both 2004 and 2005**. Mississippi State went 11–35 overall and 4–28 in the SEC in his four seasons. **Selected in the third round of the 2006 NFL Draft by the Atlanta Falcons**.

MARQUIS JOHNSON

Wide Receiver • Champaign, IL • Texas

Signed with Texas out of high school but failed to qualify academically. Spent two years at Hutchinson (Kan.) Community College — sat out 2002 as a redshirt and played in '03. Transferred to Texas Tech with three years of eligibility remaining but played only two seasons with the Red Raiders. Played in only one game in 2004 (and did not catch a pass). Played in 10 games in '05 and caught 13 passes for 74 yards and one touchdown.

JULIAN JENKINS

Defensive End • Atlanta, GA • Stanford

Started two seasons, playing defensive tackle as a junior and defensive end as a senior. Recorded a team-high seven sacks as a senior and ended his career with 16.5 sacks. **Earned honorable mention all-conference honors in his final two seasons**. Did not play on a team with a winning record in his four years on The Farm. **Selected by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in the fifth round of the 2006 draft**.

KEDRIC GOLSTON

Defensive Lineman • Tyrone, GA • Georgia

A solid three-year starter at defensive tackle who played on some very good teams — Georgia won two SEC titles in his four years — but he never earned any all-conference recognition. Finished his career with 95 tackles and 3.5 sacks. **Selected by the Redskins in the sixth round of the 2006 draft**.

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DARREN
WILLIAMS

31

Defensive Back • Clarksdale, MS • Mississippi State

Broke into the starting lineup at safety as a freshman and started a total of 24 games in his three seasons in Starkville. Intercepted three passes as a freshman and four as a junior. Played his final season at Division I-AA Jacksonville State after he was dismissed from the squad in February 2005 for a violation of team rules.

ATHLON SPORTS'
2002
RECRUITS

DEVIN
HESTER

32

Athlete • Riviera Beach, FL • Miami

Recruited as an athlete, he contributed on both offense and defense but made his mark on special teams. Shined as a sophomore in 2004, earning **first-team All-America honors as a kick returner** after averaging 17.2 yards on 19 punts (with three TDs) and 25.9 yards on 15 kickoffs (one TD). That same season, his primary position was nickel back, but he started games at tailback, fullback and cornerback. Numbers weren't quite as good as a junior, but he still earned **first-team All-ACC honors**. Started only one game on defense as a junior in 2005, his final season at Miami. **Selected by the Bears in the second round of the '06 draft.**

JAMES
BANKS

33

Quarterback • Indianapolis, IN • Tennessee

Played both wide receiver and quarterback as a true freshman in 2002, earning a start (and a victory) at quarterback against Mississippi State. Moved to receiver on a full-time basis in 2003 and led the Vols in receptions (42) and receiving yards (621). Banks never played another down of college football. He missed the entire 2004 season due to a suspension and a knee injury and was dismissed from the team in December. He enrolled at Division II Carson-Newman in 2005 but did not play due to academics. Banks attempted to resume his career and play at Carson-Newman for the 2007 season, but after being charged with DUI he was not allowed to rejoin the team.

GAVIN
DICKEY

34

Quarterback • Tallahassee, FL • Florida

Arrived at Florida as a dual-sport prospect and decided to leave the Gator football team after his redshirt sophomore season to concentrate on baseball. He earned two varsity letters in football and saw action in nine games in a backup role over the 2004 and '05 seasons. Started one game in 2003 at wide receiver. A two-year starter on the baseball team, Dickey was **drafted in the 12th round of the June 2006 Major League Baseball Draft by the Seattle Mariners** and opted to leave school with one season of eligibility remaining.

TRENT
EDWARDS

35

Quarterback • Los Gatos, CA • Stanford

Started four games as a redshirt freshman in 2003 and was the Cardinal's full-time starter during his final three seasons — when healthy. Injured his foot very early in a Week 7 game against Arizona this past season and did not play again. His most productive season was in 2005, when he completed 62.7 percent of his passes for 1,934 yards with 17 touchdowns and seven interceptions. Finished his career **No. 7 on Stanford's all-time passing list** (5,429 yards), but he had a poor touchdown-to-interception ratio (36-to-33) and never earned first- or second-team all-conference honors. **Selected by Buffalo in the third round of the 2007 draft.**

PARYS
HARALSON

36

Linebacker • Flora, MS • Tennessee

Enjoyed productive career as a defensive end, **ranking fifth in school history in sacks (21) and third in tackles for a loss (46.5)**. As a junior in 2004, he was credited with 21 quarterback hurries, tying Steve White's school record set in 1995. Despite these gaudy stats, Haralson, a three-year starter, never received first-team all-conference recognition, though he was a **two-time second-team All-SEC pick by the AP**. **Selected by San Francisco in the fifth round of the 2006 draft.**

CHRIS
ANDERSON

37

Defensive Lineman • Jacksonville, FL • Florida State

Failed to qualify academically out of high school and never enrolled at Florida State. Spent a year at Hargrave (Va.) Military Academy but still did not qualify. Attended Fort Scott (Kan.) Community College for a semester (Fall 2004) before enrolling at Middle Tennessee. After sitting out the 2005 season as a redshirt, Anderson played sparingly last fall for the Blue Raiders, appearing in two games and recording one tackle. He will be a fifth-year senior in 2007.

RICHARD
WASHINGTON

38

Wide Receiver • Ft. Myers, FL • NC State

Washington originally committed to Ohio State but signed with NC State. He emerged as one of Philip Rivers' favorite targets in '03. He caught 44 passes for 500 yards and six TDs as a sophomore and 29 passes for 348 yards and two scores as a junior in '04. His career in Raleigh ended shortly after the '04 season when he was dismissed from the team for marijuana use. An attempt to transfer to Ole Miss was unsuccessful. After a short stay at Division II Valdosta State (where he never played), Washington put his name in the '06 Supplemental Draft but was not selected.

MARCUS
VICK

39

Quarterback • Newport News, VA • Virginia Tech

The talented but troubled brother of former Hokie All-American Michael Vick enjoyed one banner season. He was forced to sit out the 2004 season after he ran afoul of the law, but he returned in '05 and completed 61.2 percent of his passes for 2,392 yards, with 17 TDs and 10 interceptions. Vick rushed for 380 yards and six more scores en route to earning **first-team All-ACC honors**. Vick was dismissed from the team shortly after the 2005 season "due to a cumulative effect of legal infractions and unsportsmanlike play," according to a statement by Virginia Tech. He was not selected in the 2006 NFL Draft but was **signed by the Miami Dolphins as a free agent and made the team as a wide receiver.**

JUSTIN
ZWICK

40

Quarterback • Massillon, OH • Ohio State

Was the more highly touted of Ohio State's two quarterback recruits in 2002 — Troy Smith was the other — but he started only nine games in his four-year career. After playing sparingly as a redshirt freshman in 2003, Zwick started the first six games in '04 but was sidelined with a season-ending shoulder injury against Iowa. He started the first two games of the '05 season but was permanently replaced in Week 3 by Smith, who went on to win the Heisman Trophy the following season. Zwick appeared in six games in a reserve role as a fifth-year senior in 2006.



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Throw an eight-man front at Rutgers coach Greg Schiano, and he's still going to tell Ray Rice to stick it up in there. Go ahead, son, we'll block seven of 'em. Number eight's on you. Give him the leg and take it away. Knock his sorry butt over. Jump him. Schiano doesn't care how it's done. Just make sure it's done. The Scarlet Knights are going to run the football, because they want to run the football. And with Rice, a 5'9", 200-pound junior who gained 1,794 yards and scored 20 times last year, Schiano has the perfect weapon to attack those crowded enemy front lines.

Rutgers ran the ball 38 times a game last year, and Rice had 26 of those carries. Schiano may seem like he's a hot, happening coach, now that Rutgers has gone from Ugly Betty to Scarlett Johansson in the college football hierarchy, but he remains at the core an old-fashioned, defense-and-ground-game mudder who loves having Rice at his disposal.

"Fans like the whole concept of throwing it all over the place, but coaches have never drifted too far from the idea of running the ball a lot," Schiano says. "A large percentage has always believed in running the football when you want to. You can always run the ball if you're down 30 points, and the defense is letting you. But if you can run the football when you want to, you can possess the ball."

The quest for the perfect quarterback continues throughout the collegiate ranks and probably always will be ongoing. Running backs may not have the same glamour that the passers possess, but as long as coaches like Schiano direct programs, they will be in high

After an incomplete pass killed a Panther drive at the Knight 34, Rutgers took over with 5:08 remaining. Ten straight Rice runs, two first downs and three Pitt timeouts later, the game was over. Rice only gained 20 yards during that time, but he put the win away.

"That game felt like it could have gone on and on, and we would never have gotten tired," Rice says. "At the end of the game, it felt like it had just started."

Rice's start at Rutgers was a quick one. "We knew the third day of practice he was special," Schiano says. The freshman leapt over five players, including three seniors, to take the starting tailback job. Rice gained 1,120 yards as a freshman and was a huge reason the Knights made it to their first bowl in 27 years. Last season, he was an even bigger part of the offense and should enter 2007 on some Heisman short lists. Even though sophomore Kordell Young has tremendous potential, this is Rice's show, and he should not disappoint anyone who takes it in. Now a junior, he's out in front of the Rutgers parade.

JUNIOR

by Michael Bradley

Boasting speed, power and gamebreaking ability, a stellar group of

demand. This season, many of the most coveted runners happen to be the same age — give or take. The junior class of backs throughout the nation is loaded with big producers like Rice and could well yield this year's Heisman Trophy winner.

Besides Rice, West Virginia's Steve Slaton, Boise State's Ian Johnson, Virginia Tech's Brandon Ore, Northwestern's Tyrell Sutton and the Arkansas double entry of Darren McFadden and Felix Jones comprise an impressive crop indeed. The list continues: Texas A&M sledgehammer Jorvorskie Lane, Clemson's James Davis, Purdue's Kory Sheets, Texas Tech's Shannon Woods, Oregon's Jonathan Stewart and Texas' Jamaal Charles. Whether they run out of a spread attack, a two-back sledgehammer or a hybrid, these backs are all big producers and the type of security blankets coaches need to establish tempo, wear out defenses and protect leads.

Rice did all of the above in Rutgers' 20-10 win over Pittsburgh last October. He gained 225 of the Knights' 268 rushing yards, averaged 5.8 yards per carry and scored once. His 63-yard blast early in the fourth quarter set up the touchdown (scored by him) that gave RU a double-digit lead. But his most impressive performance came on the game's final drive.

"There is an expectation for me to lead," he says. "I have to do the right things at all times around the (younger) guys, whether it's on the field or in the weight room. I have to do the little things and not put myself on a pedestal."

THE COMMITMENTS

By asking his girlfriend to marry him on national TV after scoring the winning two-point conversion in the Fiesta Bowl, Ian Johnson pledged his devotion to the woman he loved. Their late-July wedding will cement that promise, and Johnson is excited. "We're registered at Bed, Bath & Beyond, and I found out that wedding gifts are not considered improper benefits by the NCAA, so everybody can send one," Johnson says, laughing.

Last year, the Boise State offense made a vow of its own. The Broncos wanted to have balance throughout their offense, the better to give opponents no opportunity to key on just the pass. "If you didn't play us straight up, we would take either/or," Johnson says. "If you wanted to stop the pass, we would be happy to control the ball and run." The Broncos sure did run, especially Johnson. He gained 1,713 yards and scored 25 times. And it wasn't just because teams were so afraid of the Bronco passing attack. In fact, first-year coach Chris Petersen

decided to lessen quarterback Jared Zabransky's role in the offense by taking many of the pre-snap calls away from him, the better to make the entire BSU offense the focus.

"It used to be 100 percent dictated by the quarterback," Johnson says. "He would tell us what the front was and how to block it. We put all that on the linemen."

By doing that, the Bronco offense would be working as a diverse, balanced unit. Putting the explosive Johnson into that situation made him and Boise State more productive. Though there are questions about who will play quarterback and whether the new offensive linemen can open holes like their '06 counterparts, Johnson is completely confident in his teammates and the Boise system.

"We may run just five plays, but we might run them 25 different ways," Johnson says. "If we can go out and stop a team from doing what they want to do and then win the game, that's great. If I run for 400 yards, and we lose, that's not going to make me a Heisman Trophy candidate."

have several of those touches come on pass plays, which lead to less pounding. Not that Ore will care. He'll do whatever is necessary, even if it means sharing the work. "Toward the end of last year, I was actually getting a little stronger," he says. "But it will be nice to have someone else back there to take the load off. Whatever helps the team is fine with me."

Ore is certainly working to be more productive, even if his carries drop. He added 10 pounds of muscle during the off-season (he's up to 215 pounds on his 5'11" frame) and dropped his 40-yard dash time to 4.3 seconds. He also has had to take a significant step forward as a team elder, something Hite drove home to Ore by talking about his 14-year old son. "When my son signs his name on a test paper, he writes the number 28 (Ore's number) next to it," Hite says. "He looks up to Branden, and I told him the impact he was having."

Ore is ready to be more than just an elusive big-play threat and a hoss Tech can saddle up to protect a lead or wear a defense down. He'll gladly try to do everything, from improving his



IAN JOHNSON

ACHIEVEMENT

juniors is putting the ground game at the forefront of college football

THE WORKHORSE

When Billy Hite was a young coach at Virginia Tech, he had the pleasure of calling plays for all-time Hokie ground leader Cyrus Lawrence, who was a true workhorse and still holds the record for most carries in a career, with nearly 200 more than the runner-up. All coaches love durable backs, but Hite learned a lesson with Lawrence.

"We would give it to Cyrus 40 or 45 times a game," Hite says. "Then, he tore his ACL. It wasn't on a hit. It just tore on a cut. To this day, I feel it cost him an NFL career."

Whenever Hite gets the feeling that he wants to ride a strong back through a season, play after grueling play, he thinks about Lawrence. That's why he would like things to be a little different for Branden Ore this season. The junior had a great '06, rushing for 1,137 yards and 16 touchdowns. But he didn't have any help. Since the Lawrence incident, Hite has tried to use two runners fairly evenly each season. Last year, with no experienced backup, it was Ore's show. He carried it an average of 20 times per game but had four games of 25 or more carries.

Don't expect to see much of that this year. Hite would like to have Ore get the ball 20-25 times a game (he isn't stupid), but he'd like to

pass protecting to catching the ball better to stepping up his role with his teammates.

"Before this season, I didn't consider myself a rah-rah guy; I lead more by example," Ore says. "But when I sat down with Coach Hite and Coach (Frank) Beamer, and they told me they want me to be a vocal leader, I said, 'I can do that.' I know my teammates will listen to me."

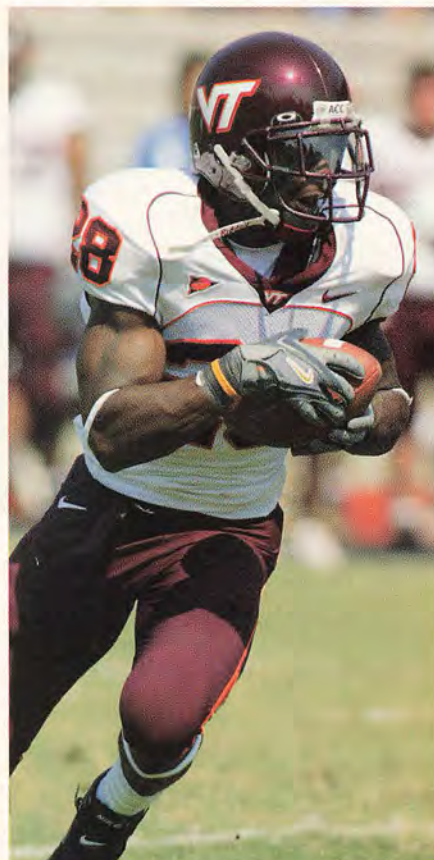
If he isn't too out of breath from working so hard.

THE DOUBLE THREAT

It's impossible to talk about West Virginia's ground game and mention only Steve Slaton. Or Patrick White. With one, you get the other. The Mountaineer spread attack would be merely mundane without White, the slippery big-play quarterback, and White would be limited severely without Slaton, WVU's electric tailback.

"They're the best of friends," West Virginia running backs coach Calvin Magee says. "They're also the most competitive two guys I've been around in my life. We stretch before practice, and they compete in that. We do an up-down before the end of stretching, and they try to see who can do it the fastest."

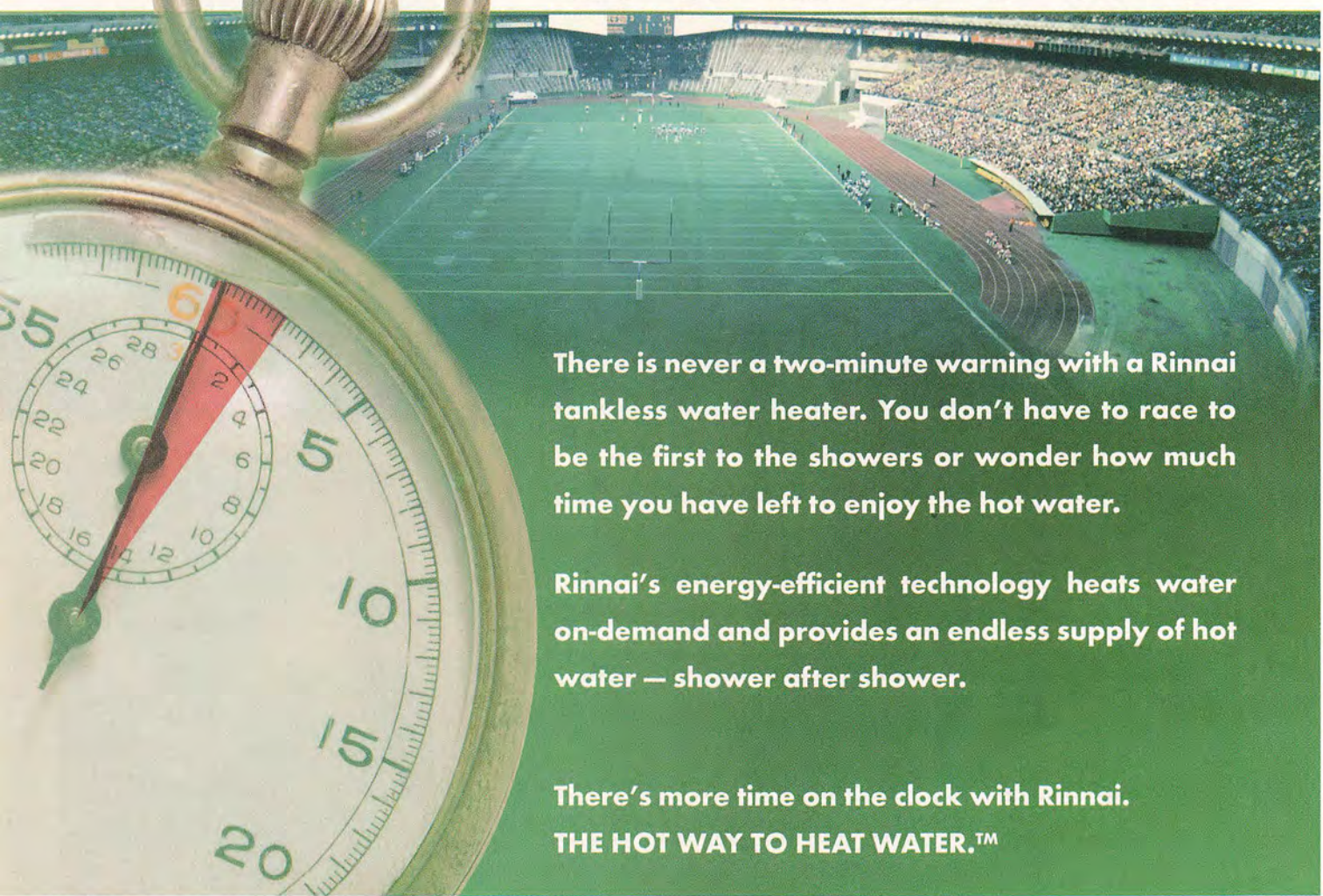
One of the staples of the Mountaineer running attack is the "choice" play, in which



BRANDEN ORE

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White sticks the ball in Slaton's stomach, reads the defense and then chooses to hand it off or keep it himself. For the defense, the choice is a little tougher: Do you want to get burned by White's legs or by Slaton's? "We just get in the flow of things," Slaton says. "He's a great reader (of defenses) and I trust him to know where the best place to go with the ball is."

Often, that is to Slaton, who came to WVU in 2005 from Conwell-Egan High School in suburban Philadelphia as a speedy back without a sparkling list of suitors. "He might not have been highly regarded in the big picture, but we knew he was something special," Magee says.



FELIX JONES



DARREN MCFADDEN

Slaton blew up during the Mountaineers' '05 three-overtime win over Louisville, gaining 188 yards and scoring six times. He finished the season with 1,128 yards, 17 TDs and many flailing defenders in his wake.

Last season, Slaton was even more electrifying, gaining 1,744 yards and averaging 7.0 yards per carry while scoring 16 times. Though he had offseason surgery to repair a wrist injury that plagued him most of last season's second half, he is expected to be even better this season, since he and White are more familiar with coach Rich Rodriguez's offense, considered by some the best version of the spread in the country. "That's one of the reasons I chose to come here," Slaton says. "We have so many options in this offense that the defense doesn't know what's coming."

Then again, maybe the defense does know what's ahead. It just doesn't like its chances.

MR. EVERYTHING

Put him in the spread. Put him in the I. Put him in the single wing, and Tyrell Sutton will get it done. "I'm shifty enough and athletic enough that I can play in the traditional I (formation), the run-and-shoot or the spread," the Northwestern star says. "The spread just allows me to be more versatile."

Sutton did a lot of things last year, gaining 1,000 yards running the football and catching 40 passes. He scored seven times and was the Wildcats' primary weapon. But he wasn't as effective as he had been in '05, when he was the Big Ten's Freshman of the Year after gaining

1,474 yards rushing and hauling in 44 throws. Sutton isn't about to make any excuses, but there were a few mitigating circumstances in his statistical drop-off. The most obvious was the departure of quarterback Brett Basanez, who had directed the NU attack so well. As the Wildcats struggled to find a new quarterback, defenses keyed on Sutton, who didn't have the same room to operate as he did as a freshman. The second was the impact the team felt from the sudden death of coach Randy Walker, just a couple months before the season started. Taking the leader away from a young team caused some problems.

"We didn't know how to finish last year," Sutton says. "This year, I want to start and finish strong. Last year, we had an okay start in our non-conference games and then sputtered."

Expect Sutton to be more productive this season, not only because the Wildcats will have a more settled quarterback situation. He judges his success in different ways. One is not



PAT WHITE



STEVE SLATON

fumbling. At all. "Zero," he says. Another is by embracing a leadership role he wasn't ready for last season. "All the guys who had been here for five years were gone, but I wasn't at the maturity level yet to assume responsibility," Sutton says. "Now, I'm older and wiser and realize that the guys look up to me. Last year, I thought, 'Who looks up to a 19-year old sophomore?'"

first-team backfield. He can do it, too. "He sees the hole well, has quick feet and is a great all-around runner," McFadden says. Jones returns the compliment. "He's a pretty quick guy with pretty good vision, and he's got some speed," he says about McFadden. "He has an upper gear."

With those two backs around, so does Arkansas.

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT

TWO FOR THE MONEY

By the time Arkansas reached the '06 SEC title game — a destination few people thought the Hogs would ever sniff — its offense seemed to be right out of the 1950s. Direct snaps to the tailback. Forty running attempts per game. And a devastating one-two punch. The Hogs hit opponents with Darren McFadden and Felix Jones, a pair of 1,000-yard rushers with great speed, vision and power. That postseason dust-up about the UA offense and whether there was enough passing? Forget about it. The only passes the Hogs need to throw are McFadden's option tosses.

"It's tough on a defense," McFadden says about twin terrors. "When we were in the game at the same time, it was tough to stop us."

McFadden gained considerable attention in '05 for his 1,113 rushing yards and 11 TDs, but Jones was almost as impressive, averaging 6.3 yards per carry (same as McFadden), en route to 626 yards and three scores. By pairing them, the Hogs were able to put tremendous pressure on defenses. Gear up to stop McFadden, and Jones killed you. Focus on Jones, and McFadden was gone. Pity poor Auburn, stung by McFadden for 145 yards and Jones for 104 last October in a 27-10 victory.

"It's lots of fun," Jones says of playing with McFadden. "I can go out and see Darren make an 80-yard run, and then I look to do better. That's what I like about this. We get to compete against each other. That game against Auburn, we had a great week of practice and a great game plan. We wanted to stay on top of them."

McFadden was so impressive last year (he also was 7-of-9 passing for three touchdowns and caught 11 passes) that he finished second in the Heisman balloting. Jones, meanwhile was a second-team All-SEC performer and enters this year aiming to join McFadden in the

PRESEASON TOP 25

How in the world does Pete Carroll continue to keep his team so stacked with talent year after year? How can the seven *Parade* All-America running backs at USC all believe they're going to be the next star at Tailback U.? Why does quarterback Mark Sanchez, the 2004 *Parade* All-America Player of the Year, sit on the bench behind Matt Leinart and John David Booty — for three years? It's the same story at just about every position on the team. If the Trojans lose a game this year, it'll be their own fault.

With 15 starters back from last season, including 10 on defense, along with most of the top backups and another stellar recruiting class (they didn't have a lot of scholarships to give this year, but the quality they reaped is ridiculously good), Carroll's crew should roll from Sept. 1 through Dec. 1 and beyond. Booty completed 62 percent of his passes for 3,347 yards and 29 touchdowns in his first year as a starter. He enters 2007 as a top Heisman contender, with Sanchez knocking on the door. The tailback position is an embarrassment of riches, with three players returning who started games last year: C.J. Gable, Emmanuel Moody and Chauncey Washington. Gable was the first true freshman tailback ever to start a season opener for the Trojans. Allen Bradford, Stafon Johnson and a trio of the most coveted recruits in the nation are all standing in line. Though Dwayne Jarrett and Steve Smith are gone, don't make the mistake of overlooking USC's receiving corps. Patrick

1 USC TROJANS

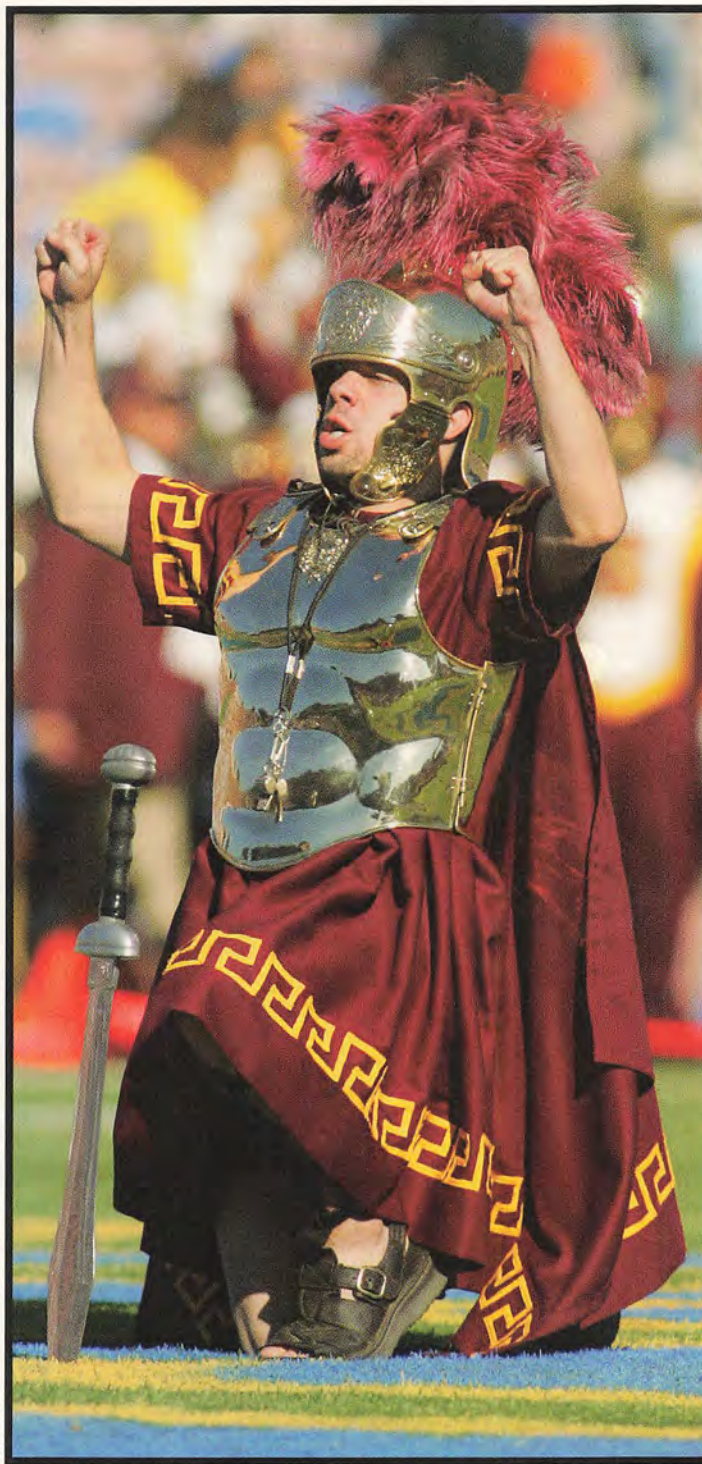
2006 RECORD: 11-2 (7-2 PAC-10)

Turner, Vidal Hazelton and David Ausberry (and, if spring games are any indication, Travon Patterson) will be household names before season's end.

The offensive line is two-deep in top-notch performers, with three returning starters, led by two-time All-America tackle Sam Baker. Another All-American, nose tackle Sedrick Ellis, leads three returning starters on the defensive line. Keith Rivers, Rey Mualuga and Brian Cushing comprise the first line of the best and deepest linebacker corps in America. Safety Taylor Mays had a major impact as a true freshman, racking up 62 tackles and leading the Trojans with three interceptions, and rejoins the rest of the starting secondary and all of their backups from last year. Among the potential stars of the incoming freshman class are the nation's top-rated prospects at running back (Joe McKnight), center (Kristofer O'Dowd), defensive end (Everson Griffen), and linebacker (Chris Galippo).

The Trojans will travel to their two toughest out-of-conference contests this year — Nebraska and Notre Dame. The California game on Nov. 10 is also on the road. The home slate doesn't look particularly challenging until Oregon State comes calling on Nov. 3, then UCLA in the finale.

- » The Trojans have lost four of their last 60 games — by a total of 12 points.
- » USC had no trouble with out of conference foes last year, dispatching SEC West champ Arkansas 50-14, Big 12 North champ Nebraska 28-10, Notre Dame 44-24 and Michigan in the Rose Bowl 32-18. The Trojans stumbled, however, in their own conference, losing to Oregon State 33-31 and UCLA 13-9.
- » Pete Carroll's Trojans are enjoying streaks of five consecutive AP top 4 finishes, five consecutive 11-win seasons, five consecutive Pac-10 titles, and five consecutive BCS Bowl appearances.



Peter Brouillet

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A year removed from a national title, the Longhorns are reloading, as usual. The most significant difference between this preseason and last is a settled quarterback situation. Colt McCoy started all 13 games last season as a redshirt freshman and was sensational. He completed 68 percent of his passes, set a school freshman passing mark with 2,570 yards and a school single-season record with 29 touchdown tosses. He became the first freshman quarterback in UT history to win 10 games, was the Offensive MVP of the Longhorns' 26-24 Alamo Bowl win over Iowa and is the reigning 2006 Big 12 Offensive Freshman of the Year.

2 TEXAS LONGHORNS

2006 RECORD: 10-3 (6-2 BIG 12)

McCoy will have his top four receivers back from last year, led by Limas Sweed, who averaged 17 yards on 46 receptions, 12 for touchdowns. Quan Cosby, Billy Pittman and tight end Jermichael Finley also return after combining for 111 catches and another nine touchdown grabs. Over the last two years, running back Jamaal Charles has run for 1,709 yards at 6.2 per carry with 18 touchdowns despite starting only four games. He has the job to himself now and should have a breakout year. Three offensive linemen who started a combined 115 straight games among them need to be replaced, but this is not an area where the Texas is ever found wanting. Guard Cedric Dockery will spearhead this year's charge.

Frank Okam, Derek Lokey and Roy Miller comprise a formidable three-man tackle rotation. Brian Orakpo and Aaron Lewis are battle-tested and proven at the ends. Last year's starting linebacker trio of Rashad Bobino, Scott Derry and Robert Killebrew returns in force. The secondary needs three new starters to fill in around safety Marcus Griffin, who contributed 90 tackles and a pick last fall, and there are experienced hands available at each vacancy.

The most challenging out-of-conference game for the Horns this fall is TCU in Game 2. Nebraska visits Texas Memorial Stadium in October, the Longhorns travel to Texas A&M for the season finale, and of course there is the Red River Shootout with Oklahoma in the Cotton Bowl on Oct. 6.

- » Offensive tackle Justin Blalock started a school-record 51 straight games for the Longhorns over his four-year career.
- » Colt McCoy's 29 touchdown passes last year tied an NCAA freshman record.
- » Mack Brown is second among all active coaches with a streak of 17 consecutive winning seasons, behind only Bobby Bowden with 30.

LSU TIGERS



3

JaMarcus Russell, the best quarterback in the Southeastern Conference in 2006, has moved on. But if Tiger opponents are expecting a caretaker QB in '07, they're in for a surprise. The new signal-caller, Matt Flynn, is best remembered for his performance in the 2005 Peach Bowl when, with Russell sidelined by an injury, he piloted the Bayou Bengals to a 40-3 win over Miami, capturing Offensive MVP honors in the process. Last season, as Russell's backup, Flynn completed 12-of-20 attempts with two touchdown tosses. Ryan Perrilloux, the 2004 *USA Today* National Offensive Player of the Year, could make an appearance from time to time.

All but 210 yards of last year's running back committee returns from last year, and if Alley Broussard can get back on track from the knee injury that derailed him in fall camp of 2005, the Tigers will have a bell ringer in the bunch. Jacob Hester and Keiland Williams shared the load in 2006 and return for '07. Early Doucet will step into the departed Dwayne Bowe's role as top wide receiver, where three newcomers enter the scene with glowing credentials. Tight end Richard Dickson made second-team All-SEC last year as a true freshman. The offensive line will reload around all-conference guard Will Arnold and three other returning starters.

Glenn Dorsey was an All-American last year, and he joins Charles Alexander and Marlon Favorite in the nation's top three-man defensive tackle rotation. Returning end Tyson Jackson posted team highs in both tackles behind the line with 10 and sacks with 8.5, batted down four passes and intercepted one.

Linebackers Darry Beckwith and Ali Highsmith and cornerbacks Jonathan Zenon and Chevis Jackson are high-impact players in the back seven. Craig Steltz picked off four passes in action off the bench last year, returning them a total of 111 yards, and will steady the situation at safety after the graduation of LaRon Landry and Jessie Daniels.

LSU's stiffest out-of-conference challenge in 2007 will come from Virginia Tech, who will visit Baton Rouge on Sept. 8. The Tigers' two most high-profile conference matchups — against Florida and Auburn — also are slated for Death Valley.

- » The 2006 Bayou Bengals led the SEC in pass defense, total defense and scoring defense, and finished second against the run.
- » LSU finished fourth nationally in passing efficiency and third in pass efficiency defense in 2006.
- » The Tigers came in third behind only Boise State and Auburn last year with a 76.5 fourth down conversion percentage, turning 13 of 17 tries into first downs.

2006 RECORD: 11-2 (6-2 SEC)

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The Badgers enter 2007 on a nine-game winning streak, third-longest in the nation, and welcome back 16 starters. If either Allan Evridge or Tyler Donovan can make a smooth transition to starting quarterback after John Stocco owned the job for three years, Wisconsin should rule the Big Ten roost in 2007. Donovan was 37-of-58 with four touchdown passes and averaged almost 10 yards per attempt as Stocco's backup last season. Evridge, a transfer from Kansas State, will keep Donovan on his toes if he doesn't win the job outright.

4 WISCONSIN BADGERS

2006 RECORD: 12-1 (7-1 BIG TEN)

Tight end Travis Beckum led the pass-catching contingent in 2006 with 61 catches. Returning wideouts Luke Swan and Paul Hubbard averaged 17.0 and 16.5 yards respectively on a combined 73 receptions. The trio recorded five touchdown catches apiece. Donovan and/or Evridge won't have to specialize on any one receiver; they can spread it around.

Defensively, the top two tacklers need to be replaced, but linebacker Jonathan Casillas is more than capable of the leadership role in that department. He posted a team-high 12.5 tackles for a loss last fall among his 83 total stops, and also picked off a pass in the Purdue game. Linebacker Deandre Levy paced the Badgers in sacks with six and QB hurries with seven. Three returning starters in the front four are led by All-Big Ten end Matt Shaughnessy. Cornerbacks Jack Ikegwuonu and Allen Langford combined for five interceptions last year, and Ikegwuonu ran back a fumble 50 yards for a touchdown against Minnesota.

The non-conference schedule isn't particularly challenging. In the Big Ten, Iowa and Michigan both must visit Camp Randall Stadium, but the Penn State and Ohio State contests are both on the road.

- » Since the start of the 2004 season, Wisconsin has won 31 games, more than anyone else in the Big Ten.
- » The Badgers finished atop the national charts in pass efficiency defense last fall. Their six TD passes allowed tied Virginia Tech for fewest in the nation.
- » Wisconsin's 12 wins last season were the most in school history. Only once before, in 1998, had the Badgers won as many as 11.

Under Rich Rodriguez, West Virginia is sustaining success like never before. The Mountaineers have now won 38 games over the last four years, the most in any four-year period in school history. A Big East championship and pieces of two others have also come in that time, and it's not about to stop. West Virginia was the nation's second-best running team last fall with Steve Slaton and Patrick White terrorizing opponents with their speed, and both are back as juniors in 2007. Slaton ran for 1,744 yards and 16 touchdowns. White ran for 1,219 yards and 18 scores. Slaton averaged 7.0 yards per carry, White 7.4. And fullback Owen Schmitt also is back after a 351-yard, 5.4 per-carry, seven-touchdown rushing campaign.

White also can throw the ball, having finished second in the Big East in passing efficiency. Had he thrown one more pass (he needed 180; he threw 179), he would have qualified for the national chart and finished ninth in passing efficiency. He completed 66 percent of his passes for 1,655 yards and 13 touchdowns. And his favorite receiver from 2006 — wide receiver Darius Reynaud — is back for his senior year. Reynaud caught 39 balls last year with a pair of touchdown grabs. He is also one of the nation's most dangerous kick returners, posting a 27.1-yard average on 30 returns with another score.

Center Dan Mozes, the 2006 Rimington Award winner, is gone, but three OL starters return. All-conference tackle Ryan Stanchek will anchor the unit. A pair of first-team All-Big East performers — tackle Keilen Dykes and strong safety Eric Wicks — are the headliners on defense. Dykes is about a cheeseburger shy of 300 pounds and a disruptive force in the middle. Wicks posted team highs with 11 tackles for loss and seven sacks. Free safety Quinton Andrews also returns after leading the team with 80 tackles and five interceptions. Reed Williams and Bobby Hathaway are the glue in the linebacking corps.

The focal point of the schedule comes in late October-early November with a trip to Rutgers and a visit from Louisville in consecutive matchups.

5 WEST VIRGINIA MOUNTAINEERS

2006 RECORD: 11-2 (5-2 BIG EAST)



- » In 2005 and 2006, West Virginia won 11 games in two straight seasons for the first time in its history. In fact, the Mountaineers had never even won 10 games twice in a row.
- » West Virginia has led the Big East in rushing each of the last five years.
- » The Mountaineers fielded the nation's 13th-best rushing defense last fall, allowing 93.3 yards per game on the ground.

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2006 RECORD: 13-1 (7-1 SEC)

- » Florida finished fifth nationally in rushing defense and sixth in both total defense and scoring defense in 2006.
- » The Gators took the hard way to the national title, playing more teams that ended up in bowls (11) than anybody else did.
- » The Gainesville campus is home to the last two Florida high school record-holders for career touchdown passes — Tim Tebow and John Brantley.

Repeating as national champions could be a tall order for the Gators if the coaching staff can't shore up a defense that has been depleted by graduation and early defections to the NFL. Among those who need to be replaced are the top two tacklers — linebackers Brandon Siler and Earl Everett — along with backs Ryan Smith and Reggie Nelson, who combined for 14 interceptions in 2006, and big-play end Jarvis Moss. Only end Derrick Harvey and safety Tony Joiner return from last year's playing group. Joiner collected the third-most tackles on the team and picked off a pair of passes from his safety position last fall. Harvey paced the unit in tackles behind the line and sacks, and last we saw him, he was making Heisman Trophy winner Troy Smith's life miserable in the BCS Title Game. But after these two, there is not one recognizable name.

6 FLORIDA GATORS

The Gator offense will have to carry most of the load, at least early on, until the defense establishes some cohesion. Chris Leak was a superb college quarterback, though he never pretended to be a perfect fit for the spread option. Sophomore Tim Tebow, who saw significant game action off the bench, completing 22-of-33 and averaging more than 10 yards per attempt, takes over full-time now and will venture far deeper into the playbook than he did last season. He is faster and more athletic than Leak, finishing second on the team in rushing last fall, and has a stronger arm. With Tebow running the attack, it should more closely resemble the familiar Urban Meyer brainchild. Meyer added to his stable of offensive weapons by bringing quarterback John Brantley, the 2006 Gatorade National Player of the Year, into the fold.

As a true freshman wide receiver in 2006, Percy Harvin was the Gators' third-leading rusher. He averaged over 10 yards per carry, ran for three scores and caught two TD passes. And with leading rusher DeShawn Wynn and leading receiver Dallas Baker both gone to the pros, Harvin's role in the offense will expand dramatically. Tebow and Harvin will work behind a veteran offensive line, led by 2006 All-SEC performers Phil Trautwein and Drew Miller.

After a couple of juicy appetizers to start the 2007 schedule, the Gators jump into the SEC slate at home vs. Tennessee in Game 3, then two weeks later they host Auburn. The month of October consists of road games at LSU and Kentucky and against Georgia in Jacksonville.

My kingdom for a quarterback. That must be Bob Stoops' thinking as the 2007 season draws near. All the other pieces are in place for a serious run. Even the graduation of tailback Adrian Peterson doesn't leave the gigantic question mark that the coach finds at quarterback. With Peterson hurt much of last season, Allen Patrick filled in for five starts and chalked up 761 rushing yards, four touchdowns and the longest run of the year by a Sooner back — 65 yards in the Oklahoma State game. He also abused Texas A&M for 173 rushing yards. Patrick is back in '07 along with Chris Brown, who started two games and ran for six scores as a freshman last fall.

Acrobatic 6'4" wideout Malcolm Kelly averaged 16 yards on 62 catches last year with 10 touchdowns. Juakin Iglesias and Manuel Johnson join Kelly in the wide receiver corps for a third straight year, and tight end Joe Jon Finley is back for his senior year with a career worksheet showing 39 catches and six scores to date. The offensive line is a team strength with three full-time starters back from last year and junior college All-America tackle Phil Loadholt joining in.

On defense, the Sooners will field one of the best and deepest secondaries in the nation with cornerbacks Lendy Holmes, Marcus Walker and D.J. Wolfe, and safeties Reggie Smith, Nic Harris and Darien Williams all back. They combined for 13 interceptions with two returned for touchdowns last year. The tackle position is stocked with three of four regular performers back from the '06 squad, plus Gerald McCoy, the top prospect among last year's incoming freshmen. Curtis Lofton, Demarrio Pleasant, Ryan Reynolds and juco All-American Michael Reed comprise a first-rate group of linebackers.

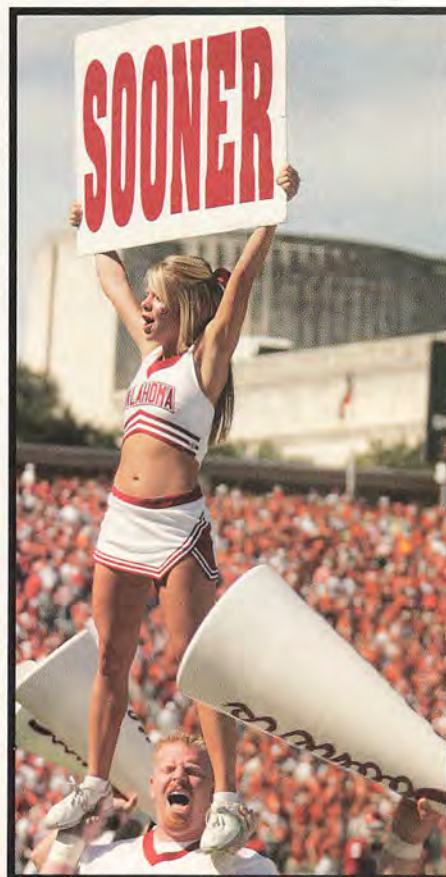
Now, about quarterback. Junior Joel Halzle is the only candidate with any game experience at all, and he attempted a grand total of two passes. Redshirt freshman Sam Bradford and true freshman Keith Nichol are the other candidates. Nichol, one of the top dual-threat quarterbacks coming out of high school this year, could be a surprise.

Miami visits Norman for Game 2 of 2007. This year's Texas game on Oct. 6 should be for the Big 12 South title.

- » Oklahoma's 2006 conference championship was the 40th in its history, including a record fourth in the Big 12.
- » The Sooners were the only team in the Big 12 to play Division I-A opponents exclusively in 2006.
- » The OU football program boasts 71,000 season-ticket holders.

7 OKLAHOMA SOONERS

2006 RECORD: 11-3 (7-1 BIG 12)



Florida: Courtland Richards
Oklahoma: Lynne Marjoch

Coach Lloyd Carr's Wolverines were shooting for the 2006 national title and were right on course until their hopes came crashing to earth at season's end. The hiring of Ron English as defensive coordinator had rejuvenated the Wolverines, who played like a team on a mission. We will learn a lot more about English's acumen this year, however, with the departures of end LaMarr Woodley, the 2006 Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year, and tackle Alan Branch from the front four, along with linebackers Prescott Burgess and David Harris and cornerback Leon Hall.

This year the shot in the arm comes from the decisions of quarterback Chad Henne and running back Mike Hart to return for their senior year. Henne has thrown 70 career touchdown passes, completing better than 60 percent of his attempts; Hart finished ninth nationally last fall in rushing with 120 yards per game. Receiver Mario Manningham will open up the defense for the running game, having averaged 18.5 yards on 38 catches with nine touchdown grabs in '06. When Manningham missed three midseason games with an injury, it resonated through the entire offense. Adrian Arrington is a terrific No. 2 option, and Henne needs to look his way more often.

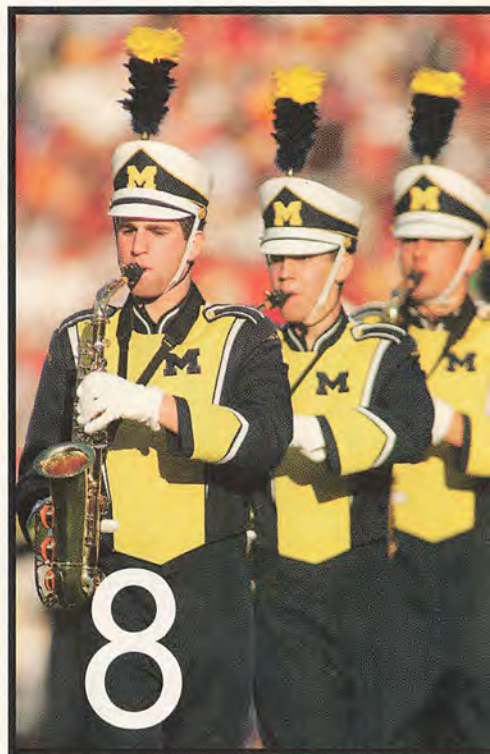
Backup running backs Kevin Grady and Brandon Minor rushed for five touchdowns between them last fall, but Grady suffered a season-ending knee injury in the spring. Hart, who came in fifth in last year's Heisman voting after running for 1,562 yards and 14 touchdowns, is clearly the featured back and the spearhead of the attack. One of the nation's best offensive lines will pave the way, with All-America tackle Jake Long and All-Big Ten guard Adam Kraus both back as seniors. Defensively, the troops will rally around linebacker Shawn Crable and safeties Jamar Adams and Brandt Englemont.

The Wolverines will play their first four and six of their first seven games of 2007 in the Big House. They also close at home vs. Ohio State. Oregon, Notre Dame and Penn State come to Michigan Stadium on consecutive September Saturdays. The only real challenge on the road will be the Wisconsin game on Nov. 10.

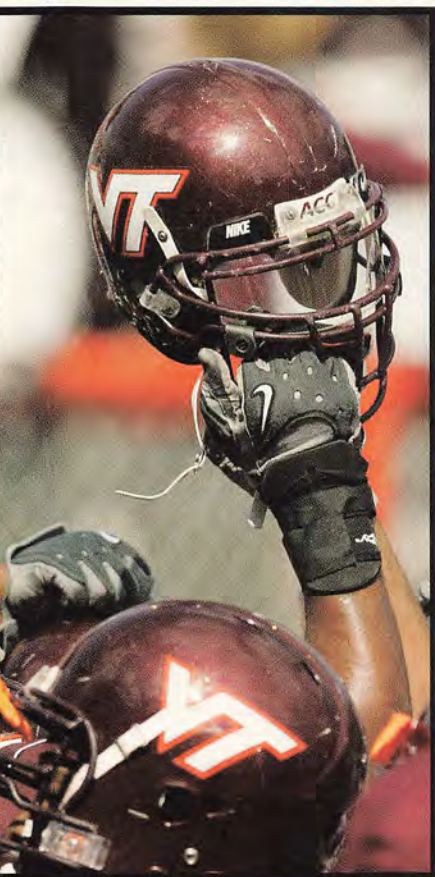
MICHIGAN WOLVERINES

- » Michigan led the nation in rushing defense in 2006. It was the only team to hold opponents under 50 rushing yards per game and less than two yards per run.
- » Michigan finished second nationally in time of possession last season, averaging 33:27 per game, only eight seconds behind first-place Texas A&M.
- » The Wolverines turned the ball over a measly 12 times last year, the fewest of any team in the nation.

2006 RECORD: 11-2 (7-1 BIG TEN)



Michigan: Bruce Schwartzman
Virginia Tech: Larry Smith



After the unspeakable tragedy of last April in Blacksburg, football just doesn't seem all that important. But it is reasonable to expect the Hokies to pour their hearts into every game this season to honor their fallen schoolmates in their way. And they are one of the nation's best teams to begin with.

9 VIRGINIA TECH HOKIES

2006 RECORD: 10-3 (6-2 ACC)

Coach Frank Beamer, welcomes back 16 starters — eight each on offense and defense — from last season's 10-3 team, his 20th at his alma mater. Sean Glennon returns at quarterback, and the Tech coaches like his game management skills and his competitiveness. But he has to clean up his 11-11 touchdown-to-interception ratio or

either Ike Whitaker, a tremendous athlete who was 10-of-16 passing last year, or freshman Tyrod Taylor, the No. 1-rated dual-purpose quarterback among the nation's recruits this year, will get a chance to manage the offense.

Josh Morgan and Eddie Royal both return after combining for 64 pass receptions, a 14.8-yard average and seven touchdowns in 2006, and Justin Harper is a proven number three receiver. But Glennon will mostly be feeding the ball to first-team All-ACC tailback Branden Ore, who ran for 1,137 yards and 16 touchdowns last fall, including a 70-yarder against Southern Miss. Three starters return in the offensive line, including 2006 Freshman All-America guard Sergio Render.

The back seven of the Tech defense is nearly impossible to solve, led by tackling machines Vince Hall and Xavier Adibi at linebacker. Hall was first-team All-ACC last year when he registered 128 total stops, including 10.5 behind the line. Adibi added 82 tackles and three interceptions. The Hokies were the top pass defense in the nation last year, and three starters are back in the secondary. Victor Harris notched a team-high four interceptions, returning one 72 yards for a score, and returns at cornerback with Brandon Flowers, who led the ACC with 21 passes defended, including three picks. Three senior starters are back in the front four.

The first test of the 2007 season comes early, on Sept. 8 at LSU. A key four-game stretch — home to Boston College, at Georgia Tech and home to Florida State and Miami — will make or break the season.

- » Virginia Tech is one of only three schools in Division I-A to have posted 10 or more wins in each of the last three seasons.
- » The Hokies have been to bowl games in each of the last 14 seasons, one of only four programs that can make that claim.
- » Virginia Tech finished 2006 ranked No. 1 in the nation in pass defense, total defense and scoring defense.

10 RUTGERS SCARLET KNIGHTS

2006 RECORD: 11-2 (5-2 BIG EAST)



A Rutgers team without fullback Brian Leonard or tight end Clark Harris might seem a bit unfamiliar to most fans, but 2006 National Coach of the Year Greg Schiano has the Scarlet Knights in a position where they can plug replacements into the lineup seamlessly. Mike Teel returns at quarterback after starting all 13 games last year. He threw for 2,135 yards and 12 touchdowns. Unfortunately, he also completed just over 55 percent and put up 13 interceptions. But in the last three games of the season he was 45-of-69 for 692 yards (better than 10 yards per attempt), five touchdowns and no interceptions. So at least he's on the right trajectory.

If Teel can keep his handoff mechanics up to code he'll keep his job regardless, since All-American Ray Rice is back. Rice ran over, around and through Rutgers opponents to the tune of 1,794 yards and 20 touchdowns last fall and now is only 86 yards shy of 3,000 for his career. With another year like last, Rice will be on hand for the 2007 Heisman presentation, if not the guest of honor.

The top two pass catchers from last year — Leonard and Harris — are gone, but the top five wide receivers are back. Kenny Britt and Tiquan Underwood were the most productive of the bunch, but Tim Brown is the most dangerous. The fastest player on the team, Brown averaged 25.2 yards per reception, and three of his eight catches went for touchdowns. Three starters return in the offensive line, anchored by All-America tackle Jeremy Zuttah.

Six starters are back from a Rutgers defense that was the Big East's stingiest in 2006. Eric Foster is back at tackle after picking up first-team All-America honors last year. End Jamaal Westerman also returns after pacing the 2006 Scarlet Knights in both tackles for a loss and sacks. Courtney Greene and Ron Girault form the league's best safety tandem with 151 tackles and seven interceptions between them last year.

The Scarlet Knights' chance at revenge for last year's 30-11 loss to Cincinnati comes in New Brunswick on Oct. 6. West Virginia also must visit Rutgers Stadium, on Oct. 27. The season finale is at Louisville on Thursday, Nov. 29.

- » The Scarlet Knights' 2006 offensive line allowed only eight sacks, fewest in the nation.
- » Rutgers has been playing football since... well, Rutgers (and Princeton) invented football in 1869. Yet the Scarlet Knights recorded 11 victories last season for only the second time in those 137 years.
- » Rutgers won a bowl game for the first time in its history with a 37-10 vanquishing of Kansas State in the Texas Bowl.

If the Heisman Trophy were to go to the player with the ability to change the complexion of a game on one play better than anyone else in America, DeSean Jackson would be front and center at this year's ceremony, and probably would have been last year. Jackson has been Cal's

11 CALIFORNIA GOLDEN BEARS

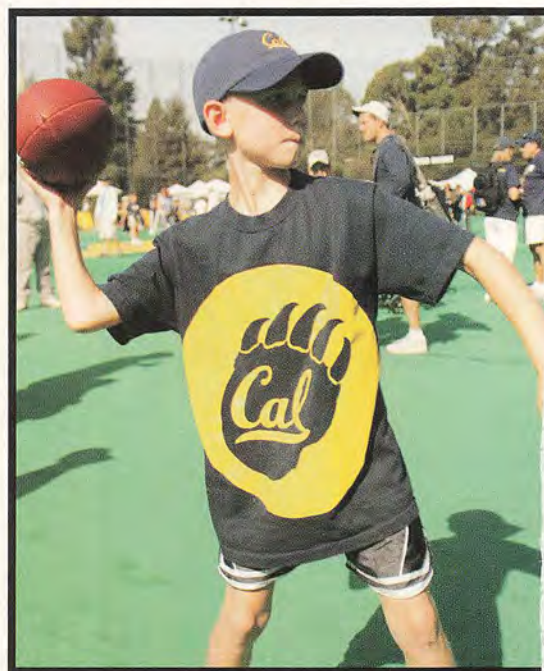
2006 RECORD: 10-3 (7-2 PAC-10)

He takes just about one out of every five punts he touches the distance.

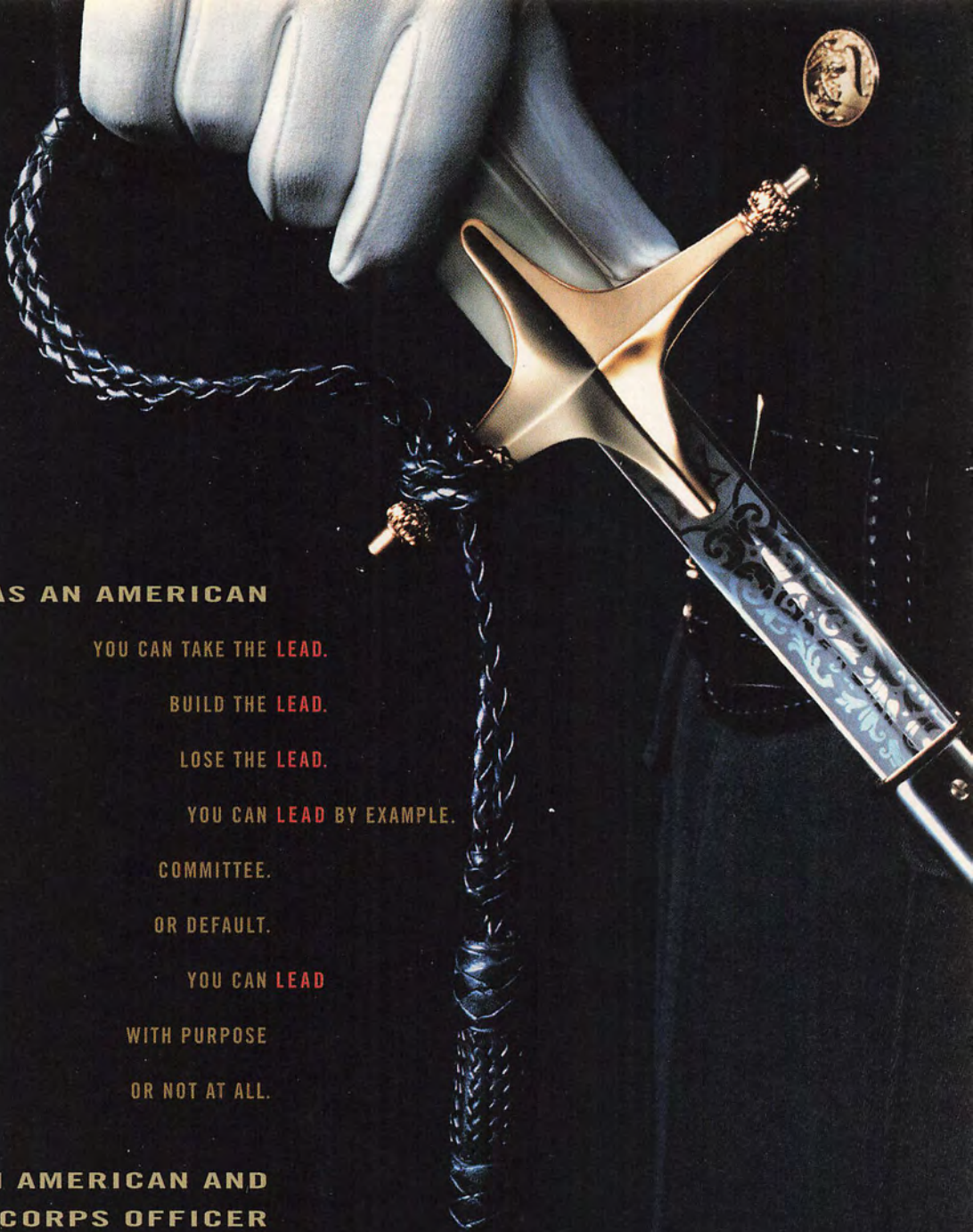
Quarterback Nate Longshore returns along with his top three receivers, including Jackson and tight end Craig Stevens, who was second-team all-conference in a Pac-10 known for great tight ends. Wideouts Lavelle Hawkins and Robert Jordan combined for 92 catches with nine touchdown grabs last fall. Three starting offensive linemen also return, led by first-team All-Pac-10 center Alex Mack. The biggest void is at tailback, where Marshawn Lynch took off for the NFL after rushing for 1,356 yards and 11 touchdowns last year. Softening the blow is the return of Justin Forsett, who has run for 1,625 yards at 6.5 per carry with 10 touchdowns over the last two seasons, and 2005 *Parade* All-American James Montgomery, who redshirted last year.

The top three tacklers from a year ago need to be replaced along with most of the defensive line. Three of the top four returning tacklers are DBs. Linebacker Zack Follett notched 12.5 tackles behind the line and 5.5 sacks among his 62 total stops coming in off the bench and is the new man in the middle. Follett, linebacker Worrell Williams and 335-pound tackle Matt Malele will be counted on to hold a mostly new front seven together.

The Golden Bears are champing at the bit to get at Tennessee after the Vols shot them down in last year's opener in Knoxville. The Cal-Tennessee game opens the 2007 campaign for both teams in Berkeley on Sept. 1. Coach Jeff Tedford's club also gets Oregon State and USC at Memorial Stadium but travels to UCLA in October. The Big Game this year is at Stanford.



- » DeSean Jackson scored touchdowns on his first career reception and his first career punt return as a freshman in 2005 — both in the same game.
- » In 2006, Cal won a share of the Pac-10 championship for the first time since 1975, when it was the Pac-8.
- » The Golden Bears have now posted five straight winning seasons for the first time since 1947-1951.



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With only 10 starters returning, five each on offense and defense, they are reloading in Columbus. From the quarterback position, a Heisman Trophy winner (Troy Smith) who set a school single-season record of 30 touchdown passes last season departs, and a grand total of 11 career pass attempts, 10 by Todd Boeckman and one by Robbie Schoenhof, return.

12 OHIO STATE BUCKEYES

Redshirt freshman Antonio Henton, the 2005 High School Offensive Player of the Year in the state of Georgia, joined the quarterback derby this spring. Boeckman enters fall practice atop the depth chart based on experience and his three years in the system.

Ted Ginn Jr. and Anthony Gonzalez are off to the NFL after compiling 1,515 receiving yards between them last season, but the cupboard is far from bare. Brian Robiskie and Brian Hartline bring excellent speed to the position and scored seven times on a combined 46 catches in 2006.

Antonio Pittman is gone after turning in back-to-back 1,000-yard rushing seasons. The good news is that Pittman's departure opens the door for Chris Wells, a 230-pound between-the-tackles runner with breakaway speed. The top-rated running back nationally among 2006 recruits, Wells ran for 576 yards and seven touchdowns, averaging 5.5 per carry, backing up Pittman last year.

All-Big Ten tackle Kirk Barton leads three returning starters on the offensive line, but only one starter — end Vernon Gholston — is back on the defensive line. Gholston posted team highs last fall with 15 tackles for a loss and 8.5 sacks among his 49 total stops, and there are veteran performers available at each of the three vacancies. Linebacker James Laurinaitis and cornerback Malcolm Jenkins are All-Americans in the back seven. Laurinaitis led the 2006 Buckeyes with 115 tackles and five interceptions. Jenkins added four picks and ran one back 61 yards for a touchdown against Penn State.

The 2007 slate opens with a I-AA opponent, then a MAC team, then at Washington, then home to Northwestern. The new quarterback will get lots of practice against people in other-than-scarlet and gray uniforms before the schedule draws to a close at Penn State, home to Wisconsin and at Michigan in three of the last four matchups.

There might be a new coach — Steve Kragthorpe, fresh off a successful four-year engagement at Tulsa — but it's the same Louisville program that is firmly established as a player on the national scene. Having one of the nation's best quarterbacks in senior Brian Brohm provides something of a comfort zone for Kragthorpe in his transitional year. Brohm has been a tad fragile, but when he is healthy he can pick a defense apart. He is a career 66-percent passer with 6,751 yards, 41 TD tosses and 12 INTs. His latest appearance was as MVP of the Cardinals' 24-13 Orange Bowl win over Wake Forest. Hunter Cantwell, Brohm's backup, is 3-1 as a starter over the last two seasons and will have a year left as the regular signal-caller in 2008.

Kragthorpe finds not only an enviable situation at quarterback but also one of the best receiving corps in the game. Harry Douglas caught 70 passes for 1,265 yards and six touchdowns in 2006. Mario Urrutia averaged 16.8 with six scores on 58 catches. Tight end Gary Barnidge added 31 catches with a 16.5-yard average and four TD grabs.

After Michael Bush went down with an injury in the season opener, the Cardinals went the running back-by-committee route. Bush and leading rusher Kolby Smith are gone, but George Stripling and Anthony Allen are back after combining for 865 rushing yards. Stripling averaged 5.7 per carry; Allen ran for a team-high 13 touchdowns. Brock Bolen averaged 6.2 yards on 48 rushes, and he's back, too. On the offensive line, three starters return, and two of them — center Eric Wood and tackle George Bussey — were first-team All-Big East in 2006.

Senior linebacker Malik Jackson will be the linchpin of the defense after leading the team in tackles for a loss with 16 and sacks with nine. He also recovered three fumbles and returned one 13 yards for a touchdown against West Virginia. Tackle Amobi Okoye and three departed DBs will be missed sorely, but strong safety Jon Russell is a good place to start rebuilding in the secondary.

The 2007 Cardinals travel to Kentucky on Sept. 15, and the dangerous Wildcat team will be hungry for revenge after last year's 59-28 shellacking at Louisville last season. The most crucial games, however, are at West Virginia on Nov. 8 and home to Rutgers on Nov. 29, both Thursday night matchups.

- » In four years as Tulsa's head coach, Steve Kragthorpe took the Golden Hurricane to three bowl games.
- » The 2006 Louisville offense finished second nationally in total yardage.
- » The 2006 Louisville defense finished second nationally with 3.46 sacks per game.

2006 RECORD: 12-1 (8-0 BIG TEN)



Brad Schloss

- » The Buckeyes were ranked No. 1 for 12 weeks last season, during which time they defeated two teams ranked No. 2 — Texas and Michigan.
- » In his six years since taking the Ohio State job, Jim Tressel has coached the Buckeyes to six bowl games, four BCS bids and two 19-game winning streaks.
- » Tressel is 5-1 against Michigan.

2006 RECORD: 12-1 (6-1 BIG EAST)



John Grisham

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Ric Fogel

2006 RECORD: 9-5 (7-2 ACC)

- » Taylor Bennett completed his first eight passes in the Gator Bowl, the longest string of completions by a Tech quarterback since 2001.
- » Georgia Tech is enjoying runs of 10 consecutive winning seasons and 10 straight bowl appearances.
- » The Yellow Jackets have finished with a winning percentage of .500 or better in ACC play for 12 consecutive years, the longest in the league by four years.

Georgia Tech coach Chan Gailey will have a superb passing quarterback in the lineup in 2007, and wide receiver Calvin Johnson, arguably the best football player in the country last year, won't be there to share the glory. Taylor Bennett got the starting nod for the 2007 Gator Bowl and completed 19-of-26 for 326 yards and three touchdowns in a 38-35 loss to West Virginia. He was the most polished passer on the team last season and showed it during his brief forays into game action. Unfortunately,

GEORGIA TECH YELLOW JACKETS

only one wide receiver is back who caught more than seven passes a year ago. Junior James Johnson, however, is proven with 53 career catches, a 15-yard average and nine scores, including one from Bennett in the Gator Bowl.

Tashard Choice, the leading rusher in the ACC in 2006, is back for more in '07. In his two years since transferring from Oklahoma, Choice has run for just a hair under 2,000 yards. Last season he dented defenses for 1,473 yards and 12 touchdowns. The offensive line features four returnees with 26 or more starts each. Three of them are seniors, but the anchor of the line is junior tackle Andrew Gardner.

The Tech defense was a stubborn group last season, and eight starters are back. End Adamm Oliver, tackle Darryl Richard and linebacker Philip Wheeler are the ringleaders up front. Oliver and Wheeler combined for 25.5 tackles behind the line. The front four is probably the deepest area on the team.

Djay Jones and Jamal Lewis are back at the safeties after combining for seven interceptions last fall, and they ran back one each for touchdowns. Lewis is a first-team All-ACC returnee. Jahi Word-Daniels, Avery Roberson and Pat Clark started 15 games among them at cornerback a year ago. Word-Daniels posted a team-high 13 pass breakups. Tech boasts the nation's top punter in Durant Brooks.

The 2007 Yellow Jackets pay a return visit to Notre Dame in the opener and host cross-state rival Georgia in the finale. In between are visits from Boston College and Virginia Tech and a trip to Miami.

Karl Dorrell welcomes back 10 offensive and 10 defensive starters from last year's 7-6 team that finished the regular season with a 13-9 win over USC. The arrival of DeWayne Walker from the NFL coaching ranks as defensive coordinator was just what the doctor ordered, bringing vast improvement on that side of the ball, and the top eight tacklers all return. End Bruce Davis is one of the best pass rushers in America, having registered 12.5 sacks (tied for fourth nationally) last season, and there are four battle-hardened performers at the tackle positions, including starters Kevin Brown and Brigham Harwell.

Christian Taylor, who posted 83 tackles despite playing through an ankle injury, and 2006 Freshman All-American Reggie Carter head up an active, hard-hitting linebacker contingent. Chris Horton led the team in tackles with 95, notched three interceptions and returns at safety along with Dennis Keyes, who added 79 stops and a pick. Cornerback Alterraun Verner intercepted two passes and ran them both back for touchdowns, including an 89-yarder against Arizona. He is trying to battle his way into the starting lineup past one of two returning starters — Rodney Van and Trey Brown.

Dorrell has two proven quarterbacks in 6'5" juniors Ben Olson and Patrick Cowan. Olson was completing 64 percent of his passes with five touchdowns as the early-season starter before a knee injury in game five finished him for the season. Cowan filled in admirably the rest of the way.

Tailback Chris Markey ran for more than 1,000 yards last year and has over 2,000 for his career. He also is a valuable receiver, with 60 career catches. Marcus Everett caught 31 passes last season with five touchdown grabs, and he's back at wide receiver along with Brandon Breazell, the deep ball threat with a team-high 18.5-yard average on 21 catches. There are almost 90 combined starts among the returning offensive linemen, including four full-time starters from last year.

The Bruins had Notre Dame beaten last year before letting the game get away in the final moments. The Irish will visit the Bruins this Oct. 6 in a game sandwiched in between Oregon State at Corvallis and Cal in the Rose Bowl. USC, as usual, is the finale.

- » The 2006 UCLA defense tied for ninth nationally in rushing defense, fifth in tackles for a loss and sixth in sacks.
- » The Bruins played in their fourth straight bowl game last year.
- » All three of UCLA's 2007 non-conference opponents are coming off bowl appearances.

15 UCLA BRUINS

2006 RECORD: 7-6 (5-4 PAC-10)



Peter Brouillet

The quarterback merry-go-round in Athens has come to a stop. By the end of last season, the offensive reins were firmly in the hands of Matthew Stafford, the SEC coaches' All-Freshman quarterback, and there they'll stay. Stafford experienced some tough times while learning on the job but finished on a roll, guiding the Bulldogs to wins over fifth-ranked Auburn and 16th-ranked Georgia Tech to close the 2006 regular season. Then in the Chick-fil-A Bowl, he was named the game's Offensive MVP after rallying the Dawgs to 28 unanswered points, obliterating a 21-3 halftime deficit on the way to a 31-24 win over Virginia Tech.

Senior running backs Gregg Lumpkin and Thomas Brown are still around after combining for more than 1,000 rushing yards in 2006, but Brown is trying to bounce back from a midseason knee injury. Truth be told, Lumpkin is still trying to rebound fully from his own knee injury of three years ago. His potential is far greater than his production to date. Watch out for redshirt freshman Knowshon Moreno and incoming freshman Caleb King to make some noise off the bench as ball-carriers. Another viable pass receiving option or two must emerge to join Mohamed Massaquoi, who caught 30 balls last year. Head coach Mark Richt raided the junior college ranks for some immediate help in the offensive line, where both of last year's starting guards are back but a pair of All-SEC performers are gone.

Six of last year's starters in the defensive front seven need to be replaced, along with the team's best defensive back in safety Tra Battle. Ends Roderick Battle and Marcus Howard and tackle Kade Weston should move into the vacancies in the front four with little drop-off, and senior middle linebacker Brandon Miller has logged 15 starts with 73 tackles over his career. Cornerback is probably the strongest area of the team, with Paul Oliver, Bryan Evans, Prince Miller and Asher Allen all back in the fold, and Kelin Johnson is a top-notch safety.

The 2007 Bulldogs host Oklahoma State to open the season. Tennessee in midseason and Georgia Tech in the finale are also road games, with Auburn coming to Athens on Nov. 10 and the traditional matchup with Florida in Jacksonville on Oct. 27.

16 GEORGIA BULLDOGS

2006 RECORD: 9-4 (4-4 SEC)



- » Georgia kicker Brandon Coutu led the SEC in scoring in 2005 with 114 points.
- » The Bulldogs turned the ball over 31 times last season, the most since 1979, resulting in 80 points for their opponents.
- » In the six years since Mark Richt was named head coach, Georgia is 22-3 on the road, including 8-2 against ranked opponents.



The Nittany Lions will use their 20-10 Outback Bowl win over Tennessee as a springboard to the 2007 season. Quarterback Anthony Morelli has a cannon for an arm and an unwarranted reputation as a bad decision-maker. His 208 pass completions last fall are a new school record, his 2,424 passing yards are third on the school's single-season charts, and he threw only eight interceptions in 386 attempts.

17 PENN STATE NITTANY LIONS

2006 RECORD: 9-4 (5-3 BIG TEN)

even more dangerous returning punts than he is catching passes. He averaged 12 yards per return last fall with a 75-yard touchdown. What will be tough is finding a replacement for running back Tony Hunt and his 3,320 career rushing yards, second-most in school history, and All-America offensive tackle Levi Brown. The oft-injured Austin Scott, a former top recruit, and Rodney Kinlaw, who averaged 5.1 yards on 39 carries while playing in Hunt's shadow last year, will decide the tailback job between them. Three starters return on the offensive line.

Six starters are back from last year's formidable defensive unit, but only one in the line. The back seven is one of the nation's best, despite the graduation of All-America linebacker Paul Posluszny, who finished as the school's career tackles leader. Dan Connor, a second-team All-America linebacker in 2006, enters his senior year needing 99 total stops to overtake Posluszny's mark. He had 113 last season, including nine for a loss, five sacks and two interceptions. Sean Lee is also back at linebacker after a 90-tackle, 5.5-sack '06 campaign.

Anthony Scirrotto led the Big Ten with six interceptions last fall and returns at safety, with Justin King and Tony Davis back in the corners. Davis rang up two fumble returns for touchdowns last season, including an 88-yard jaunt in the Outback Bowl.

The 2007 Nittany Lions get their shot at revenge for last year's shellacking at Notre Dame in Game 2, this time at home in Happy Valley. Two weeks later comes a trip to Michigan Stadium. Iowa, Wisconsin and Ohio State are all home games in October.

- » In 2006, Penn State finished in the Top 15 in Division I-A in rushing defense, scoring defense, total defense, pass efficiency defense and sacks.
- » The Nittany Lions are one of only 13 teams to have won 20 games over the last two seasons.
- » Penn State's defense racked up 40 sacks, tied for sixth nationally, in 2006.

2006 RECORD: 9-5 (6-2 BIG 12)



As a junior at Arizona State in 2005, quarterback Sam Keller was on his way to a record-breaking season, throwing for 2,165 yards and 20 touchdowns before a hand injury finished him after seven games. Following his highly publicized transfer to Nebraska, he sat out 2006

18 NEBRASKA CORNHUSKERS

per NCAA transfer rules, looked sharp this spring and has one year to finish his collegiate career. Joe Ganz, last year's backup to Zac Taylor, is another serious contender for the job.

Wide receivers Terrence Nunn and Maurice Purify are back after combining for 76 receptions last fall, and Purify proved to be a deep threat with an 18.5-yard average and seven touchdown catches. Marlon Lucky started six games, ran for 728 yards and six touchdowns and accounted for 1,264 all-purpose yards. He will be the full-time starting I-Back in 2007. Seven offensive linemen return who started at least one game last season, including four full-timers.

The back seven on defense looks stout with three returning starters in the secondary along with linebackers Bo Ruud and Corey McKeon. Ruud is a first-team All-Big 12 returnee, and Cortney Grixby has been a fixture at cornerback for three years. The front wall could be an area of concern, with four new starters needed. All-America end Adam Carriker will be particularly hard to replace.

Nebraska will host top-ranked USC in Game 3. Missouri and Texas are road trips for the '07 Huskers, with Texas A&M and Kansas State visiting Lincoln. Oklahoma is absent from the slate.

- » Nebraska is the nation's winningest football program since 1970, with 369 wins, 27 more than second-place Michigan.
- » The 2006 Cornhuskers were one of only three teams nationally to finish in the Top 25 in rushing offense, passing offense, total offense and scoring offense.
- » With its 21-3 win over Kansas State last year, Nebraska became the fourth member of major college football's 800-win club, joining Michigan, Notre Dame and Texas.

Nebraska: Larry Smith
Hawaii: Peter Brouillet

The numbers from 2006 are impressive enough. Hawaii averaged 559 yards per game, including 441 through the air, and 47 points, leading the nation in all three categories. Quarterback Colt Brennan, who finished sixth in the Heisman voting, completed 73 percent of his passes (406-of-559) for 5,549 yards and an NCAA single-season record 58 touchdowns. All told, he broke or tied 16 NCAA records. And he also ran for 366 yards and five scores. Wide receivers Davone Bess, Jason Rivers and Ryan Grice-Mullen combined for 3,168 receiving yards and 36 touchdown catches. What's downright scary is that the quarterback and all three receivers are back for 2007.

Bess led the team with 96 receptions and 15 touchdowns. He and Rivers each caught passes for over 1,000 yards. Rivers and Grice-Mullen each averaged well over 16 yards per catch. The bad news is that leading rusher Nate Ilaoa, who provided the attack with a semblance of balance by running for 990 yards at 7.6 per carry with 13 touchdowns, is gone. Other than Brennan, no one is back who ran for more than 34 yards.

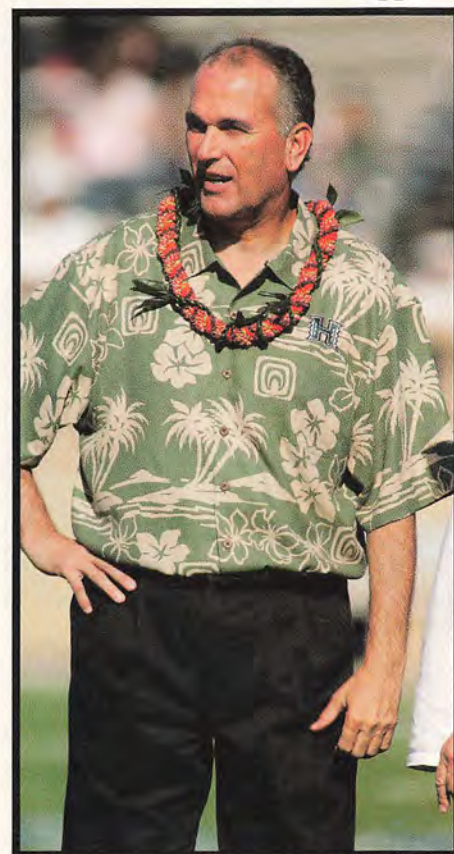
The Hawaii defense made great strides as a unit last fall, but coordinator Jerry Glanville is now the head coach at Division I-AA Portland State. He has been replaced by Greg McMackin, who favors a 4-3 scheme. Linebacker Adam Leonard proved to be one of the top defensive players in the WAC, posting team highs with 114 tackles, nine pass breakups and four fumble recoveries. Solomon Elimimian added 90 stops on the year and is back at the other inside linebacker position. Defensive tackle Michael Lafaele and safety Jacob Patek are also making names for themselves around the league.

The 2007 schedule heats up toward the end, with visits from Fresno State, Boise State and Washington on tap in three of the last four matchups.

- » Colt Brennan led the nation in passing yardage, passing efficiency, completion percentage, touchdown passes and total offense.
- » The 2006 Warrior defense forced 29 turnovers — leading directly to 143 points — and scored 24 points of its own.
- » In his eighth season, June Jones became Hawaii's winningest coach with 64 victories, surpassing Dick Tomey with 63 wins in 10 seasons.

19 HAWAII WARRIORS

2006 RECORD: 11-3 (7-1 WAC)



2006 RECORD: 9-4 (5-3 SEC)



Erik Ainge, the 6'6" Oregon import, is developing into one of the nation's best quarterbacks, but he won't find a lot of familiar targets downfield this season. Robert Meachem, Jayson Swain and Bret Smith have all departed after combining for 159 catches and 22 touchdowns in 2006.

20 TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS

Holdovers Lucas Taylor, Austin Rogers and Josh Briscoe have 29 career catches among them. The top two returning pass catchers are tight ends Chris Brown and Brad Cottam.

Ainge will probably be handing off a lot more this year, with LaMarcus Coker, Montario Hardesty and Arian Foster all back for more ball-carrying duty. Three starters are back in the offensive line, but All-American Arron Sears isn't one of them.

Defensively, J.T. Mapu and Demonte' Bolden are ready and able to step into the vacancies at tackle, and Xavier Mitchell and Antonio Reynolds are vastly underrated ends. Making up for the loss of leading tackler Marvin Mitchell from the linebacker corps are returning starters Jerod Mayo and Ryan Karl, with Rico McCoy and 2006 High School All-American Chris Donald vying to replace Mitchell.

Jonathan Hefney is an All-America-caliber safety who will provide leadership for a relatively inexperienced secondary.

For the '07 season opener the Vols will pay a return visit to California, where the Golden Bears have been anxiously awaiting their shot at payback for last year's 35-18 debacle in Knoxville. Two weeks later comes a date at reigning national champion Florida. Alabama is a midseason road trip, with Georgia and Arkansas both visiting Neyland this season.

- » Three of Tennessee's four losses in 2006 were to teams ranked in the final Top 15 nationally.
- » The 2006 Vols scored 35 percent of their total points (126 of 362) in the fourth quarter and came from behind to win four games in the final stanza.
- » Last season, Erik Ainge set a new Tennessee single-season record for completion percentage at 67.0 (233-of-348).

The Tigers enjoy some positive momentum — wins over rival Alabama and Nebraska in their last two outings — to propel them into the 2007 campaign. Only four '06 starters return to action on offense, but one of them is quarterback Brandon Cox, who currently stands second in school history with a 137.90 passing efficiency rating. Cox completed 60 percent of his tosses last fall for 2,198 yards and 14 touchdowns.

Replacements need to be found for both the leading rusher and the leading receiver from 2006. The top two candidates for the running back job are Brad Lester, who ran for 510 yards and a team-high nine touchdowns last season, and Ben Tate, a Freshman All-American who averaged 7.3 yards on 54 carries and posted two 100-yard games, barely missing a third, despite his limited role. Wideout Rodgeriqu Smith returns after catching 26 passes (for a gaudy 17.4-yard average) and scoring four touchdowns. Gigantic King Dunlap (6'9", 321) is back at left tackle. The other four O-Line starters will come from a pool of six lettermen and some impressive freshmen.

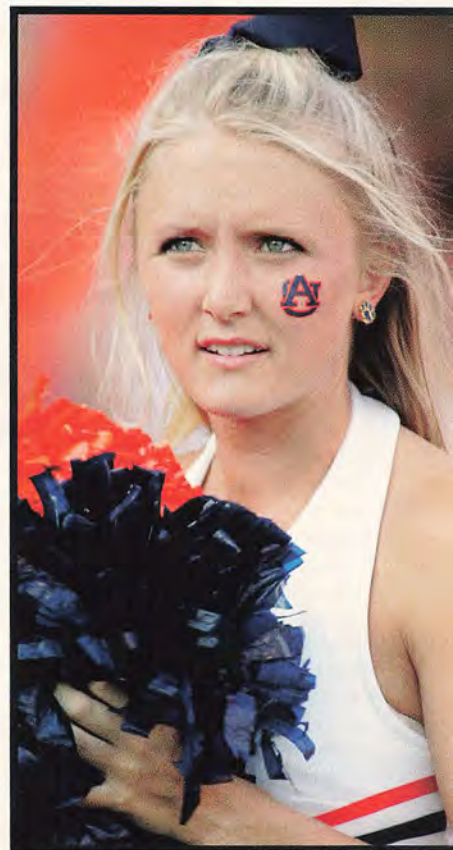
Tiger opponents can't wait for defensive end Quentin Groves to get out of town, but they'll have to put up with him for another year. Alabama and Florida are particularly tired of him. He has a nasty habit of camping out in other teams' backfields and knocking the ball loose from their backs. Tackles Sen'Derrick Marks, who notched 11 tackles behind the line last year, and Josh Thompson also return, but the back seven could use some shoring up.

The season opens with a visit from Kansas State on Sept. 1. Florida and LSU are both midseason road trips to opponents seeking revenge for 2006 losses. The Tigers travel to Georgia and host Alabama in the final two regular-season matchups of '07.

- » Auburn was the only team in the country in 2006 to defeat two teams ranked in the Top 5: Florida and LSU.
- » The 2006 Tigers finished second nationally in fourth down efficiency, converting 78.6 percent (11-of-14) of their attempts into first downs.
- » Over the last three years, Auburn has won 33 games and posted an .868 winning percentage (33-5), both of which are third-best in the nation.

21 AUBURN TIGERS

2006 RECORD: 11-2 (6-2 SEC)





Oregon State is coming off a 10-4 season, the second-best record in the program's history. The 2006 Beavers snapped USC's 27-game Pac-10 winning streak, beat No. 24 Hawaii on the road, defeated Oregon in the state's annual Civil War and came from behind to overtake Missouri in the Sun Bowl. And most of the key players are back.

The 2007 Oregon State story starts with the offensive line. All five of last year's starters earned All-Pac-10 recognition, and four return, led by first-team all-conference honoree

22 OREGON STATE BEAVERS

2006 RECORD: 10-4 (6-3 PAC-10)

Jeremy Perry, who teams with Roy Schuening to form arguably the best guard duo in the nation. Center Kyle DeVan and tackle

Andy Levitre also

return, with 6'6", 303-pound junior Tavita Thompson leading the pack at the all-important left tackle spot.

The best bet to replace departed Sun Bowl MVP Matt Moore at quarterback is Sean Canfield, who connected on 28 of his 45 attempts last year with two TDs and two INTs as a redshirt freshman. The new signal-caller will have the luxury of the top three receivers back from last year. All-American Sammie Stroughter caught 74 passes for 1,293 yards (a 17.5-yard average) and five touchdowns, and he is even more dangerous returning punts. First-team All-Pac-10 tailback Yvenson Bernard ran for 1,307 yards and 12 touchdowns and caught 43 passes out of the backfield.

The Beavers' veteran defense is held together by one of the nation's top linebacker corps, with Alan Darlin, Joey LaRocque and two-time second-team All-Pac-10 honoree Derrick Doggett all back for their senior year. The three combined for 257 tackles, 33.5 tackles for a loss and four interceptions in 2006.

UCLA and Arizona visit Corvallis on consecutive midseason Saturdays in 2007, and then it gets even tougher, with trips to Cal, USC and Oregon all down the road.

- » Under Mike Riley, Oregon State is 3-0 in postseason appearances.
- » The 2006 Beavers finished third in the nation with 3.4 sacks per game (47 total).
- » Oregon State owns the Pac-10's longest bowl-game winning streak at three.

Stephen McGee is one of the top dual-threat quarterbacks in the nation. He is coming off a 2006 season in which he threw for 2,295 yards and 12 touchdowns and ran for 666 yards and four more scores. As a sophomore last year he set a new Texas A&M single-season record by completing 62 percent of his passes and led the nation in interception percentage with only two in 313 pass attempts.

Lining up behind McGee in the backfield is 274-pound Aggie folk hero Jorvorskie Lane, almost certainly the best short-yardage back in America. In the regular season, Lane ran for either a first down or a touchdown on 26 of 29 third- and fourth-down carries last fall. In all he rushed for 725 yards and 19 touchdowns. The Aggies' leading rusher was Mike Goodson, who ran for 847 yards and four touchdowns, leading the Big 12 with a 6.7-yard average last year as a freshman. With McGee, Goodson and Lane all back in the fold, A&M figures to lead the conference in rushing once again. Four returning starters in the offensive line, led by all-conference guard Kirk Elder, will see to it. With Chad Schroeder gone, the team's top returning receiver is deluxe tight end Martellus Bennett with 56 career catches, six for TDs.

Safety Devin Gregg is the Aggies' top returning tackler from last fall. Gregg, fellow DBs Japhus Brown and Jordan Peterson and linebacker Mark Dodge all return after tying for the team lead with two interceptions apiece. All-Big 12 first-teamer Chris Harrington is a fixture at defensive end, and 250-pound linebacker Misi Tupe was the Big 12 Newcomer of the Year.

Most of the toughies on the 2007 schedule are on the road — Miami, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Missouri. The finale against Texas, though, will take place at Kyle Field.

23 TEXAS A&M AGGIES

2006 RECORD: 9-4 (5-3 BIG 12)



- » Texas A&M led the nation in time of possession last season with an average of 33:35 per game.
- » The 2006 Aggies tied a school record for fewest turnovers with 13 (nine fumbles, four interceptions), which also tied for second nationally and led the Big 12.
- » Texas A&M finished fourth nationally last fall with a 50.03 third down conversion rate, turning 89 of 177 into first downs.



If there ever was a Miami lifer, it's Randy Shannon. A Miami native, Shannon was a four-year letterman for the Hurricanes' football team. He has spent every year since 1991 as an assistant on the staffs of the Canes and the Dolphins. He has been defensive coordinator at the U. for the last six years and was named head coach last Dec. 8.

24 MIAMI HURRICANES

2006 RECORD: 7-6 (3-5 ACC)

Shannon will have nine offensive starters back in action in 2007, including four in the line. He also has two proven quarterbacks. Kyle Wright started 12 games in 2005 and nine last year before missing the last four games with a broken thumb. He is a career 60-percent passer, with over 4,000 yards and 26 touchdowns to his credit. Kirby Freeman took over when Wright went down last year and proved to be a capable field general. He led the Hurricanes to a come-from-behind win over Boston College in the regular-season finale and a bowl-game win over Nevada.

Javarris James spearheads the rushing attack. He took over as the starter in Game 4 as a freshman last season and ran for 802 yards on the year. Charlie Jones enters 2007 with seven career starts and 10 rushing touchdowns. Returning wide receivers Lance Leggett and Sam Shields combined for 75 catches and eight touchdowns last fall.

The Miami secondary is one of the best in the country, with all four starters back led by super safety Kenny Phillips. All-ACC defensive end Calais Campbell racked up an impressive 20.5 tackles for a loss last season, with 10.5 sacks, and leads three 2006 starters back in the front seven.

The Hurricanes travel to Oklahoma and host Texas A&M in September, visit Florida State in October and close the season with consecutive road trips to Virginia Tech and Boston College.

- » The Miami defense finished fourth nationally against the run and seventh overall last year.
- » Randy Shannon has played or coached on three of Miami's five national championship teams.
- » Miami's winning percentage of .816 (71-16) since 2000 is the fourth-best in the nation.

The Horned Frogs enter 2007 on an eight-game winning streak, fourth-longest in the nation. In their last four games, they averaged 43 points and 516 yards per game. Four full-time starters return to the attack, but quarterback Jeff Ballard, TCU's career leader in both winning percentage (.905, 19-2) and completion percentage (61.1) isn't one of them. Sophomore Marcus Jackson and redshirt freshman Andy Dalton will continue to battle over the starting assignment well into fall practice. Jackson was 26-of-44 with two touchdowns in action off the bench last year.

Aaron Brown, the 2005 Mountain West Conference Freshman of the Year and second-team All-MWC last fall, has compiled 1,559 rushing yards and 15 touchdowns over his first two years, averaging 5.5 per carry. Despite the graduation of leading receiver Quentily Harmon, the Frogs won't be hurting for pass catchers. Donald Massey, Ervin Dickerson, Walter Bryant, Derek Moore and Marcus Brock all have been tested in game action. Two-time first-team all-conference tackle Herb Taylor is gone, but three O-Line starters are back. Matty Lindner is a second-team All-MWC returnee at guard.

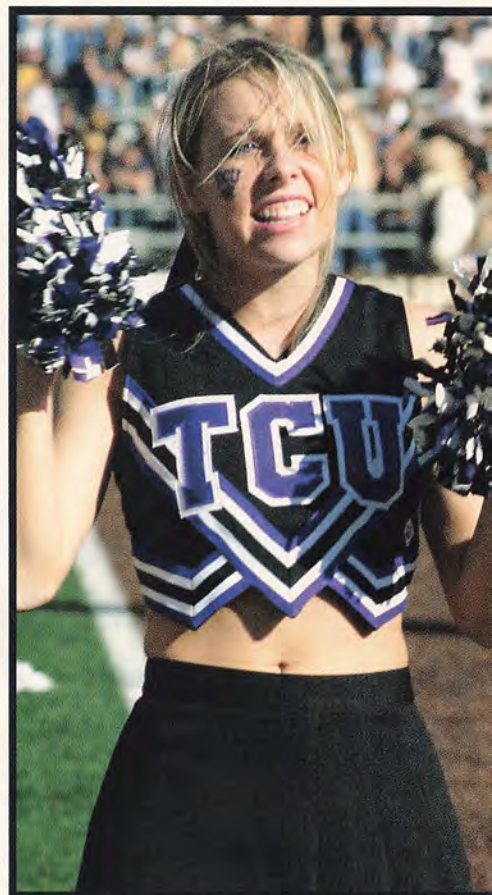
All-American Tommy Blake is one of the most feared defensive ends in America with 36.5 tackles behind the line, 19 sacks and six pass breakups for his career. Chase Ortiz at the other end isn't far behind. Jason Phillips, David Hawthorne and Robert Henson head up a quick, active linebacker corps. Safety Brian Bonner made first-team All-MWC as a return specialist and second team on defense. Cornerbacks Nick Sanders and Torrey Stewart are back after picking off three passes each, and returning one each for touchdowns in '06.

The 2007 Horned Frogs can make a statement during their contest at Texas in Game 2. A three-game late-season stretch at home vs. Utah and New Mexico and at BYU could nail down the conference title.

- » Over the last eight games, all TCU wins, the Frogs outscored their opponents 192-13 in the first half.
- » The 2006 TCU defense finished second nationally against the run, second in total defense and third in scoring defense.
- » The Horned Frogs have appeared in the postseason eight of the last nine years.

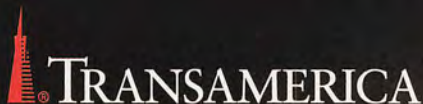
25 TCU HORNED FROGS

2006 RECORD: 11-2 (6-2 MWC)



2007 Johnny Unitas® Golden Arm Award®

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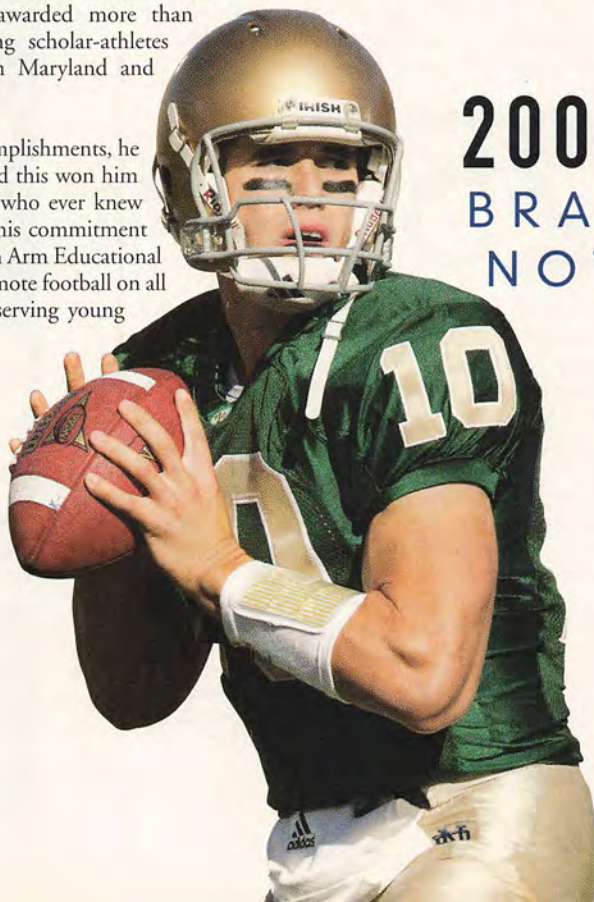


Often times college football fans and the media become so enthralled with touchdown passes, elusive runs, ferocious tackles and quarterback sacks that we lose sight of other important matters of college athletics. The Golden Arm Award, presented annually to the top senior quarterback by the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Foundation encapsulates all that is positive in college sports. The award acknowledges performance on the field for sure. But it goes beyond completion percentage and touchdown strikes. The award values character, citizenship, integrity and those who honor the game.

"The winner of the Golden Arm Award is recognized not only for his athletic accomplishments, but also for his character, citizenship, scholastic achievement, leadership qualities, and athletic abilities," says John Unitas, Jr., President of the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Educational Foundation, Inc. The Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award bears the name of the man many refer to as the finest quarterback ever to play the game of football.

In addition to honoring a player with the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award, the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Educational Foundation, Inc., has awarded more than \$500,000 in scholarships to deserving scholar-athletes from local area high schools both in Maryland and Kentucky.

"Despite my Dad's outstanding accomplishments, he never forgot his humble beginnings, and this won him a permanent place in the hearts of all who ever knew him," notes Unitas, Jr. "Giving life to his commitment to 'give back,' the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Educational Foundation, Inc. was established to promote football on all levels by providing financial aid to deserving young athletes."

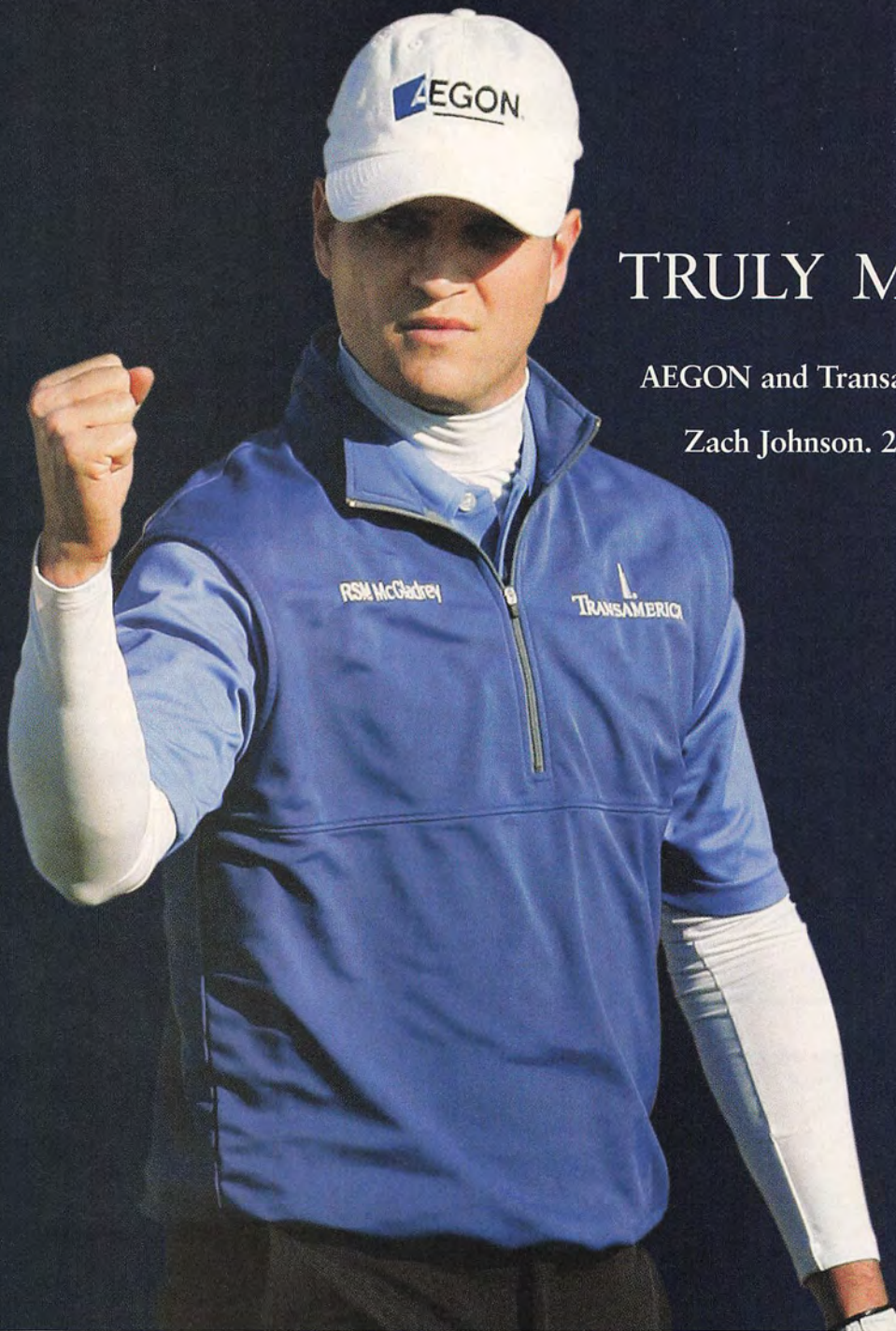


TOP SENIOR QUARTERBACKS FOR 2007

ERIK AINGE, TENNESSEE
JOHN DAVID BOOTY, USC
COLT BRENNAN, HAWAII
ALEX BRINK, WASHINGTON STATE
BRIAN BROHM, LOUISVILLE
SHAUN CARNEY, AIR FORCE
BRANDON COX, AUBURN
MARTIN HANKINS, MEMPHIS
OMAR HAUGABOOK, TROY
CHAD HENNE, MICHIGAN
ANTHONY MORELLI, PENN STATE
MATT RYAN, BOSTON COLLEGE
PAUL SMITH, TULSA
ADAM TAFRALIS, SAN JOSE STATE
ANDRE' WOODSON, KENTUCKY

2006 WINNER

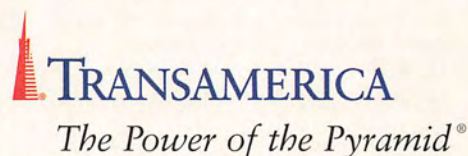
BRADY QUINN
NOTRE DAME



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2007

Athlon® Sports™

ALL-AMERICA TEAM

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

QB JOHN DAVID BOOTY, USC
6'3" 210 SENIOR

In his first year at the reins of the Trojans attack, Booty completed 62 percent of his passes for 3,347 yards and 29 touchdowns. In his first career start, at Arkansas, he connected on 69 percent with three second-half touchdowns. He enters 2007 on track to finish in the top 5 in school history in passing and total offense despite only two years as a starter.

RB DARREN MCFADDEN, ARKANSAS
6'2" 205 JUNIOR

McFadden is the only returning Heisman Trophy finalist from last season, having finished second. The Little Rock native set an Arkansas record with 1,647 rushing yards last season and won the Doak Walker Award as the nation's top running back. He was consensus All-America, first team All-SEC and SEC Offensive Player of the Year. In SEC history, only 1982 Heisman Trophy winner Herschel Walker ran for more yards in his first two years than McFadden has.

RB RAY RICE, RUTGERS
5'9" 200 JUNIOR

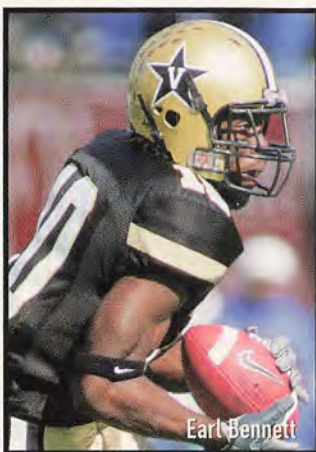
Rice finished second in the nation and set a Big East single-season record with 1,794 rushing yards. He also ran for 20 touchdowns and came in fifth nationally in scoring and 11th in all-purpose yards. He was first-team All-Big East and second-team All-America last fall after his Freshman All-America campaign in 2005.

WR MARIO MANNINGHAM, MICHIGAN
6'0" 181 JUNIOR

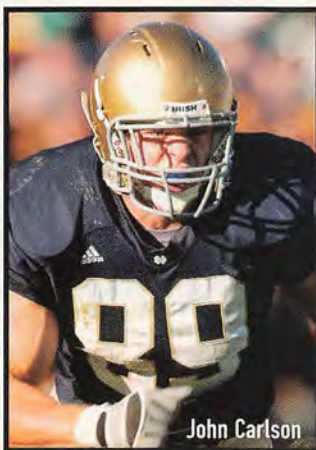
Michigan won its first 11 games last season. In the eight that Manningham participated in, the Wolverines averaged 34 points per game. During the three-game stretch when Manningham was out with an injury, they averaged 18. He finished the season with 38 catches, including nine for touchdowns.

WR EARL BENNETT, VANDERBILT
6'1" 202 JUNIOR

Only a junior, Bennett already owns 10 school records and two SEC marks. He has caught 161 passes for 2,022 yards over his first two years, and with his 48th reception this fall he will become the SEC's all-time leading receiver. He already holds two of the league's five most productive receiving seasons, with 79 catches as a freshman and 82 as a sophomore, making him the only receiver in SEC history with 75 or more catches in two different seasons.



Earl Bennett



John Carlson

TE JOHN CARLSON, NOTRE DAME
6'6" 259 SENIOR

Carlson is a tremendous athlete with an ability to stretch the field as a receiver that most tight ends don't have. Carlson took over as the starter in 2006 and caught 47 passes, with four TD grabs. With the top three Irish receivers gone, Carlson's role in the passing game should expand dramatically.

C JONATHAN LUIGS, ARKANSAS
6'4" 305 JUNIOR

Luigs started all 14 games for the Razorbacks last year and made first-team All-SEC and third-team AP All-America. One of six finalists for the Rimington Trophy, Luigs anchored a line that gave up only nine sacks, second-fewest in the nation, and cleared the way for two 1,000-yard rushers.

OL SAM BAKER, USC
6'5" 305 SENIOR

Baker has been a starter at left tackle for the Trojans since his redshirt freshman season of 2004 and has been a first-team All-American for the last two years. He anchors a Trojan line that allowed only 17 sacks last fall.

OL JAKE LONG, MICHIGAN
6'7" 313 SENIOR

Long was first team All-Big Ten and was named the conference's Offensive Lineman of the Year. He also was a consensus All-American and is a leading candidate for the 2007 Outland Trophy.

OL BARRY RICHARDSON, CLEMSON
6'7" 320 SENIOR

In 2006, Clemson finished fifth nationally in rushing offense and tied for sixth in fewest sacks allowed, and Richardson was one of the main reasons. He was an All-ACC first teamer after registering 75 knockdown blocks, giving him 141 for his career.

OL JEREMY ZUTTAH, RUTGERS
6'4" 290 SENIOR

Zuttah is a first-team All-Big East returnee. Last season as a junior he started all 13 games at right tackle on an offensive line that paved the way for the 15th-ranked rushing offense in Division I-A and led the nation with only eight sacks allowed.

K ART CARMODY, LOUISVILLE
5'8" 165 SENIOR

The 2006 Groza Award winner, Carmody owns the Louisville career records for field goals made and points scored. He is a perfect 11-for-11 on field goal attempts of 40 yards or more, including his career long 51-yarder last season against Temple.

KR MARCUS THIGPEN, INDIANA
5'9" 190 JUNIOR

Thigpen is a running back who doubles as a kick returner. Or is it the other way around? He led the nation in kick returns, averaging 30.1 yards, and took three back for touchdowns.



FIRST TEAM DEFENSE

DL **QUENTIN GROVES, AUBURN** 6'3" 254 SENIOR

Over his first three years at Auburn, Groves has tallied 30 tackles for a loss (for 161 lost yards). Of those, 23 have been sacks. He has also knocked the ball loose from opposing ball-carriers six times. He had 12 tackles for a loss and 9.5 sacks (including three against national champion Florida) for the season and was a consensus first-team All-SEC choice.



Quentin Groves

DL **GLENN DORSEY, LSU** 6'2" 299 SENIOR

Opponents ran for only 97.1 yards per game against the Bayou Bengals last fall, and Dorsey was the anchor of the line. He was consensus All-SEC and was selected first-team All-America by the AP. Despite having to fight through double-team blocking on a regular basis, Dorsey finished third on the team with 64 tackles, including 8.5 for a loss.

DL **ERIC FOSTER, RUTGERS** 6'2" 265 SENIOR

Foster is a returning first-team All-Big East performer and was also a first-team All-America selection by the Football Writers Association of America. After missing most of 2005 with a knee injury, Foster came back to start all 13 games last fall, racking up 51 tackles, including 14 for a loss and six sacks, and batted down four passes at the line. He had his best game in the win over Louisville, with seven total stops.

DL **TOMMY BLAKE, TCU** 6'3" 252 SENIOR

Blake has been a first-team All-Mountain West Conference selection for two straight years, and last season he was a unanimous pick. He led the conference by a wide margin in tackles for a loss with 16.5, giving him 36.5 for his career. He also has 19 sacks on his career worksheet, with six passes batted down and four forced fumbles. He capped off his 2006 season by capturing Defensive Player of the Game honors in the Frogs' 37-7 Poinsettia Bowl win over Northern Illinois.

LB **DAN CONNOR, PENN STATE** 6'3" 233 SENIOR

Connor is the latest stud linebacker to emerge at Linebacker U., following on the heels of All-American Paul Posluszny. Last season he registered 113 total stops and now has 274 for his career, including 19 behind the line and 7.5 sacks. In addition to putting opposing ball-carriers on the ground last season, Connor forced three fumbles and picked off two passes, and was named second-team All-America by the AP.

LB **JAMES LAURINAITIS, OHIO STATE** 6'3" 244 JUNIOR

Laurinaitis is the reigning Nagurski Award winner as the nation's best defensive player. Last season he started all 13 games at middle linebacker and paced the Buckeyes in tackles with 115, including 8.5 behind the line. He also led his team in interceptions with five. In the Texas game he racked up 13 tackles and forced two fumbles, and was named Big Ten Defensive Player of the Week.

LB **REY MAUALUGA, USC** 6'3" 250 JUNIOR

As a sophomore in 2006, Mauauala beat out returning starter Oscar Lua for the middle linebacker job, made plays all over the field and landed on the All-Pac-10 first team. In his young career, he has 9.5 tackles for a loss of 40 yards, and has batted down five passes and intercepted two others.

CB **BRANDON FLOWERS, VIRGINIA TECH** 5'10" 190 JUNIOR

In a secondary that should be the best in the nation in 2007, Flowers is the headliner. He finished third in Division I-A last fall in passes defended with 21 — three interceptions and 18 breakups — as the Hokies led the nation in pass defense. He also notched 51 total stops and broke through for 7.5 tackles behind the line, including 3.5 sacks.

CB **MALCOLM JENKINS, OHIO STATE** 6'1" 202 JUNIOR

Jenkins is listed as Ohio State's field cornerback, but he will line up wherever necessary to cover the opponent's best receiver. Last season, he registered 55 total tackles, including 4.5 for a loss. He also picked off four passes, returning them a total of 99 yards. Against Penn State, he ran one back 61 yards for a touchdown. He was consensus first-team All-Big Ten.

S **TAYLOR MAYS, USC** 6'4" 225 SOPHOMORE

When starting USC free safety Josh Pinkard went down with a season-ending injury in the 2006 opener at Arkansas, Mays stepped into the breach and turned in an amazing season for a freshman, not that it was unexpected after his stellar high school career at Seattle O'Dea. He turned in a team-high three interceptions and broke up three other passes.

S **TOM ZBIKOWSKI, NOTRE DAME** 6'0" 210 SENIOR

Zbikowski is one of the few bright spots on a Notre Dame defense that has been, shall we say, vulnerable. Last fall he racked up 79 tackles, giving him 213 for his career, but he is most dangerous as a return man. He has run back three punts for touchdowns and has also scored on two of his six career interceptions. He was a third team AP All-American in 2006.

P **DURANT BROOKS, GEORGIA TECH** 6'0" 202 SENIOR

A second-team All-American as selected by the AP and the Walter Camp Foundation, Brooks finished fourth in the nation with a 45.5-yard average on 79 punts. He recorded 27 punts of 50 yards or more, including seven of 60 or longer, and stuck Tech opponents inside their 20-yard line 35 times.

PR **DESEAN JACKSON, CALIFORNIA** 6'0" 166 JUNIOR

Jackson was a consensus All-American in 2006 and won the inaugural Randy Moss Award as the nation's best return man. He led Cal in receiving for the second straight year and led the nation in punt returns, averaging 18.2 yards. He returned four punts for scores, giving him five for his career.



Malcolm Jenkins



2007 Athlon® Sports™

ALL-AMERICA TEAM

SECOND TEAM

QUARTERBACK

Colt Brennan 6'3" 196 Sr. Hawaii

RUNNING BACKS

Steve Slaton 5'10" 195 Jr. West Virginia

Mike Hart 5'9" 196 Sr. Michigan

WIDE RECEIVERS

Jarett Dillard 5'11" 180 Jr. Rice

Harry Douglas 5'11" 170 Sr. Louisville

THIRD TEAM

QUARTERBACK

Brian Brohm 6'4" 224 Sr. Louisville

RUNNING BACKS

Ian Johnson 5'11" 194 Jr. Boise State

Jamaal Charles 6'1" 200 Jr. Texas

WIDE RECEIVERS

Adarius Bowman 6'4" 220 Sr. Oklahoma State

Davone Bess 5'10" 195 Jr. Hawaii



Colt Brennan, Jonathan Hefney, Brian Brohm and Kenny Phillips

TIGHT END

Travis Beckum 6'4" 221 Jr. Wisconsin

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

George Bussey 6'4" 298 Jr. Louisville

Ryan Clady 6'6" 319 Jr. Boise State

John Greco 6'5" 318 Sr. Toledo

Jeremy Perry 6'2" 313 Jr. Oregon State

C Alex Mack 6'5" 300 Jr. California

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

Calais Campbell 6'8" 282 Jr. Miami

Bruce Davis 6'3" 237 Sr. UCLA

Sedrick Ellis 6'1" 295 Sr. USC

Derrick Harvey 6'4" 245 Jr. Florida

LINEBACKERS

Vince Hall 6'0" 240 Sr. Virginia Tech

Keith Rivers 6'3" 230 Sr. USC

Bo Ruud 6'3" 235 Sr. Nebraska

CORNERBACKS

Simeon Castille 6'1" 189 Sr. Alabama

Dwight Lowery 6'1" 185 Sr. San Jose State

SAFETIES

Jonathan Hefney 5'9" 185 Sr. Tennessee

Eric Wicks 6'1" 200 Sr. West Virginia

SPECIALISTS

K Alexis Serna 5'8" 170 Sr. Oregon State

P Chris Miller 6'2" 205 Jr. Ball State

KR Darrell Blackman 5'10" 205 Sr. NC State

PR Sammie Stroughter 6'0" 183 Sr. Oregon State

TIGHT END

Martin Rucker 6'6" 255 Sr. Missouri

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

Kirk Barton 6'6" 310 Sr. Ohio State

Adam Kraus 6'6" 296 Sr. Michigan

Phil Trautwein 6'6" 298 Sr. Florida

Chris Williams 6'6" 315 Sr. Vanderbilt

C John Sullivan 6'4" 290 Sr. Notre Dame

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

Ian Campbell 6'5" 232 Jr. Kansas State

Keilen Dykes 6'5" 295 Sr. West Virginia

Lawrence Jackson 6'5" 265 Sr. USC

Matt Shaughnessy 6'6" 242 Jr. Wisconsin

LINEBACKERS

Jasper Brinkley 6'2" 262 Sr. South Carolina

Jonathan Goff 6'4" 235 Sr. Vanderbilt

Wesley Woodyard 6'1" 212 Sr. Kentucky

CORNERBACKS

Antoine Cason 6'0" 182 Sr. Arizona

Aqib Talib 6'2" 180 Jr. Kansas

SAFETIES

Kenny Phillips 6'2" 202 Jr. Miami

Reggie Smith 6'1" 197 Jr. Oklahoma

SPECIALISTS

K Brandon Coutu 6'0" 200 Sr. Georgia

P Britton Colquitt 6'3" 205 Jr. Tennessee

KR Damon Nickson 6'0" 177 Sr. Middle Tennessee

PR Jeremy Trimble 6'0" 219 Sr. Army



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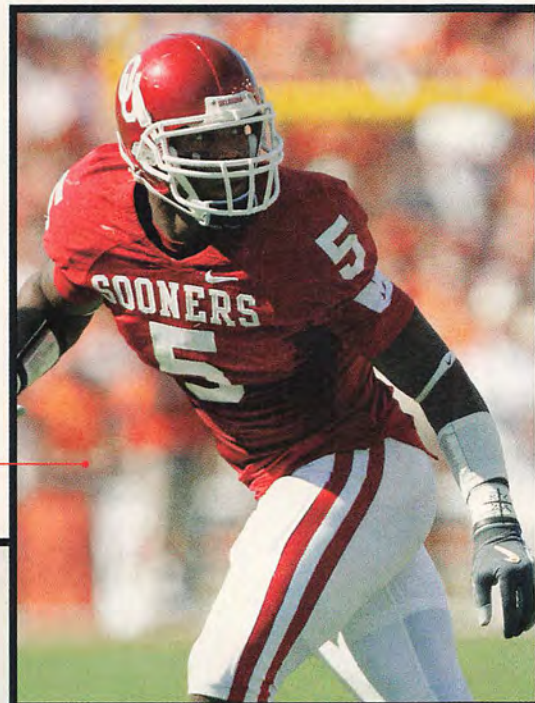
U.S. ARMY



THE 7TH ANNUAL ATHLON AWARDS

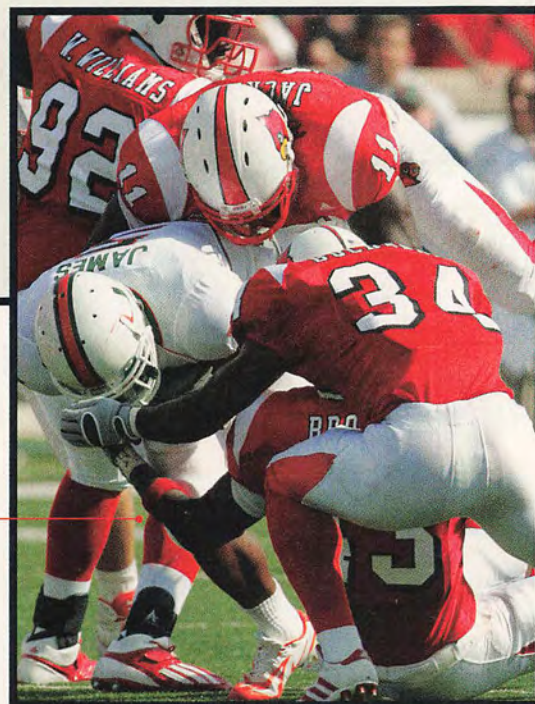
ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE

	QB	RB	WR/TE	OL	DL	LB	DB
BOSTON COLLEGE	1	5	8	5	5	3	8
CLEMSON	12	1	7	10	6	5	5
DUKE	7	9	11	9	10	11	12
FLORIDA STATE	2	8	4	6	1	4	3
GEORGIA TECH	8	4	9	3	2	2	4
MARYLAND	11	3	3	2	11	8	10
MIAMI	4	7	2	4	7	9	2
NORTH CAROLINA	10	12	10	12	12	12	11
NC STATE	9	2	5	11	4	10	7
VIRGINIA	5	11	12	8	3	7	9
VIRGINIA TECH	6	6	1	7	8	1	1
WAKE FOREST	3	10	6	1	9	6	6



BIG 12 CONFERENCE

	QB	RB	WR/TE	OL	DL	LB	DB
BAYLOR	12	12	11	9	10	9	11
COLORADO	11	9	12	8	5	4	3
IOWA STATE	8	11	6	12	12	5	12
KANSAS	9	10	8	6	6	7	9
KANSAS STATE	7	7	10	10	8	11	8
MISSOURI	1	5	3	7	9	10	10
NEBRASKA	3	8	1	3	4	1	5
OKLAHOMA	10	3	2	2	2	6	1
OKLAHOMA STATE	6	2	5	5	7	3	2
TEXAS	2	4	4	4	1	2	7
TEXAS A&M	5	1	7	1	3	8	6
TEXAS TECH	4	6	9	11	11	12	4



BIG EAST CONFERENCE

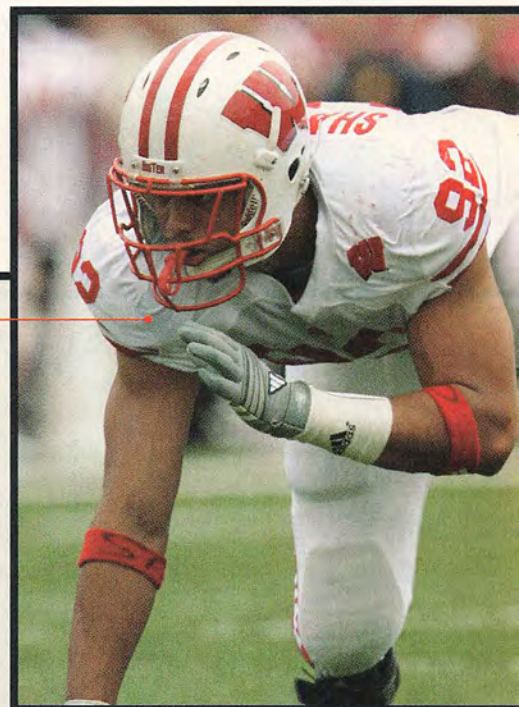
	QB	RB	WR/TE	OL	DL	LB	DB
CINCINNATI	6	6	6	6	4	2	4
CONNECTICUT	5	4	8	8	8	6	6
LOUISVILLE	1	3	1	2	2	1	3
PITTSBURGH	7	5	2	4	7	8	7
RUTGERS	4	2	3	1	1	5	1
SOUTH FLORIDA	3	7	5	5	5	4	2
SYRACUSE	8	8	7	7	6	7	8
WEST VIRGINIA	2	1	4	3	3	3	5

Oklahoma: Layne Murdoch
Louisville: John Grieshop

BIG TEN

CONFERENCE

	QB	RB	WR/TE	OL	DL	LB	DB
ILLINOIS	8	6	11	10	8	4	3
INDIANA	4	11	8	11	11	11	10
IOWA	7	3	4	4	2	5	6
MICHIGAN	1	1	5	2	4	6	5
MICHIGAN STATE	11	8	10	9	10	9	8
MINNESOTA	10	7	7	5	6	8	11
NORTHWESTERN	6	4	9	8	3	10	9
OHIO STATE	9	5	6	6	5	3	2
PENN STATE	2	10	2	7	9	1	4
PURDUE	3	9	1	1	7	7	7
WISCONSIN	5	2	3	3	1	2	1



CONFERENCE

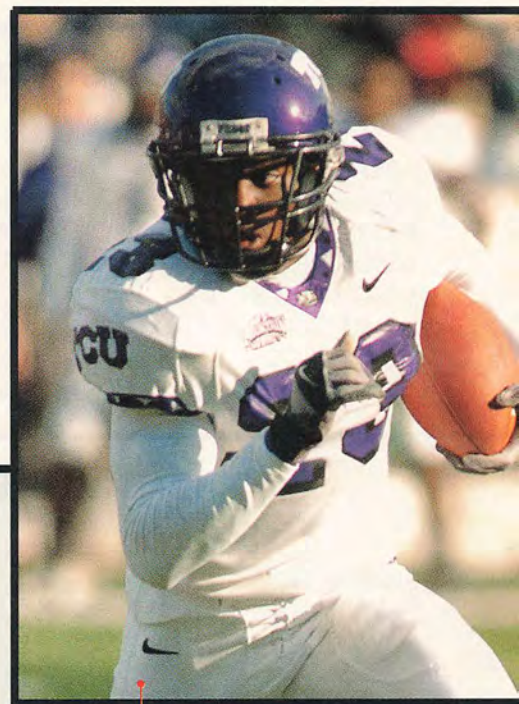
USA

	QB	RB	WR/TE	OL	DL	LB	DB
EAST CAROLINA	10	12	5	11	10	3	7
HOUSTON	11	4	1	2	6	8	9
MARSHALL	7	8	11	3	2	9	4
MEMPHIS	5	5	4	6	4	6	6
RICE	3	11	3	9	9	4	11
SMU	2	6	7	7	3	10	5
SOUTHERN MISS	4	1	6	1	1	2	2
TULANE	12	10	9	12	8	5	12
TULSA	1	3	8	4	7	1	3
UAB	9	9	12	8	5	7	8
UCF	6	2	10	5	11	12	10
UTEP	8	7	2	10	12	11	1

MID-AMERICA

CONFERENCE

	QB	RB	WR/TE	OL	DL	LB	DB
AKRON	6	4	4	6	2	11	4
BALL STATE	1	9	1	3	9	7	11
BOWLING GREEN	7	11	8	9	12	12	8
BUFFALO	13	8	12	10	11	8	12
CENTRAL MICHIGAN	2	6	3	1	8	3	5
EASTERN MICHIGAN	9	13	9	11	7	5	10
KENT STATE	3	5	10	8	5	9	9
MIAMI	11	10	7	13	13	13	7
NORTHERN ILLINOIS	10	7	6	7	6	1	3
OHIO	8	2	11	5	1	10	6
TOLEDO	5	1	5	4	4	4	2
TEMPLE	12	12	13	12	10	2	13
WESTERN MICHIGAN	4	3	2	2	3	6	1



MOUNTAIN WEST

CONFERENCE

	QB	RB	WR/TE	OL	DL	LB	DB
AIR FORCE	4	4	9	9	9	7	8
BYU	6	6	5	1	2	2	3
COLORADO STATE	5	2	2	5	4	6	4
NEW MEXICO	7	3	4	4	3	8	5
SAN DIEGO STATE	3	8	7	8	6	9	9
TCU	9	1	8	2	1	1	2
UTAH	1	7	3	3	7	5	7
UNLV	2	9	1	7	5	4	6
WYOMING	8	5	6	6	8	3	1

PAC-10

CONFERENCE

	QB	RB	WR/TE	OL	DL	LB	DB
ARIZONA	7	8	9	9	3	3	2
ARIZONA STATE	4	6	8	4	5	8	5
CALIFORNIA	2	5	1	3	6	5	6
OREGON	6	1	3	6	7	6	4
OREGON STATE	8	2	2	1	4	2	7
STANFORD	10	10	5	10	10	9	9
UCLA	5	4	7	5	2	4	3
USC	1	3	6	2	1	1	1
WASHINGTON	9	9	10	8	8	10	10
WASHINGTON STATE	3	7	4	7	9	7	8

SOUTHEASTERN

CONFERENCE

	QB	RB	WR/TE	OL	DL	LB	DB
ALABAMA	7	11	3	2	7	7	3
ARKANSAS	10	①	7	6	5	6	10
AUBURN	8	8	10	10	2	9	4
FLORIDA	4	9	1	1	6	10	7
GEORGIA	3	4	9	9	4	8	2
KENTUCKY	1	7	2	8	12	5	9
LSU	6	6	4	3	1	2	1
MISSISSIPPI STATE	11	12	11	12	9	11	11
OLE MISS	12	3	12	11	10	12	12
SOUTH CAROLINA	9	5	8	7	8	1	6
TENNESSEE	2	2	6	5	3	3	5
VANDERBILT	5	10	5	4	11	4	8

SUN BELT

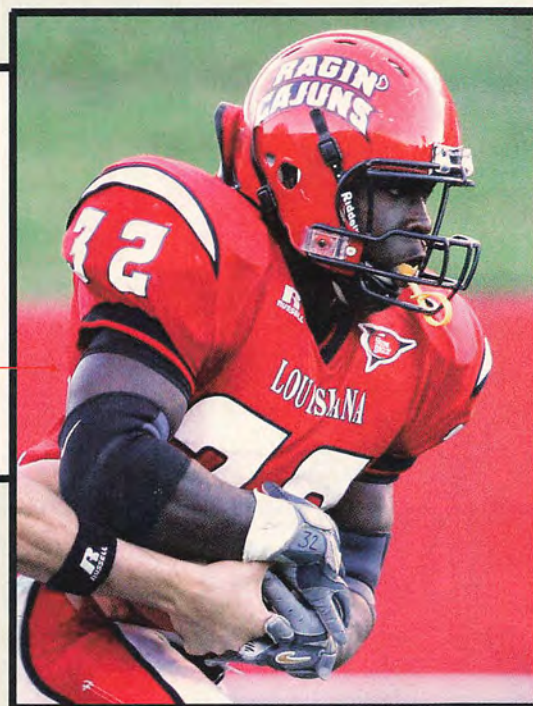
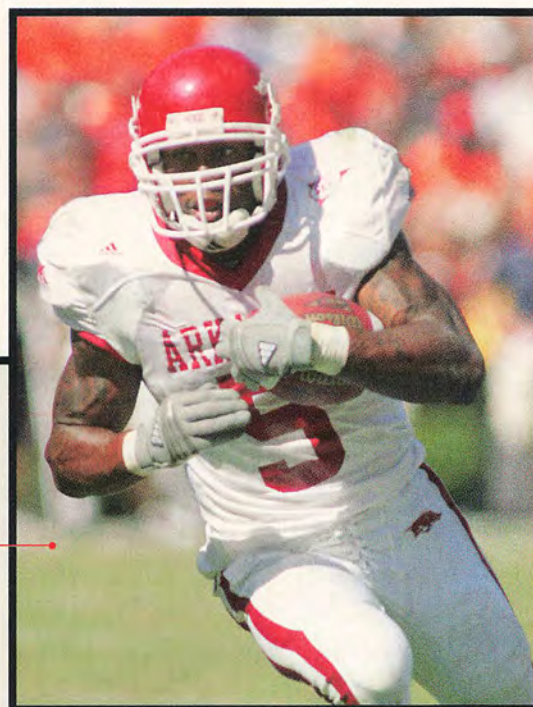
CONFERENCE

	QB	RB	WR/TE	OL	DL	LB	DB
ARKANSAS STATE	5	2	3	6	8	5	1
FLORIDA ATLANTIC	3	4	4	4	2	4	8
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL	7	8	5	5	4	7	5
MIDDLE TENNESSEE	8	6	6	3	1	6	3
NORTH TEXAS	6	7	7	6	6	2	7
UL LAFAYETTE	4	①	8	2	7	3	6
UL MONROE	2	3	1	1	5	8	4
TROY	1	5	2	7	3	1	2

WESTERN ATHLETIC

CONFERENCE

	QB	RB	WR/TE	OL	DL	LB	DB
BOISE STATE	6	1	7	1	3	3	2
FRESNO STATE	4	6	6	4	2	8	4
HAWAII	1	7	1	2	1	1	7
IDAHO	8	5	8	7	8	5	3
LOUISIANA TECH	5	4	9	8	4	7	5
NEW MEXICO STATE	2	8	2	6	9	9	9
NEVADA	7	3	4	3	5	4	6
SAN JOSE STATE	3	2	3	5	6	2	1
UTAH STATE	9	9	5	9	7	6	8



Arkansas: Tim Clark/Athlon Sports
UL-Lafayette: UL-Lafayette SID

NEW!

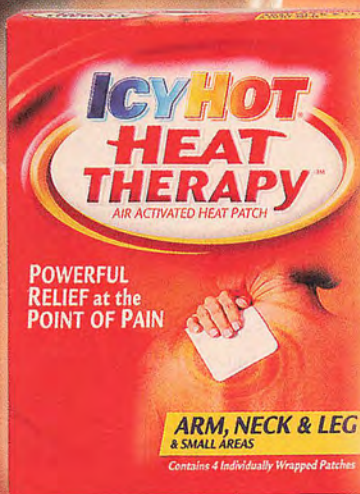
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RECRUITING REPORT

BY CONFERENCE

ACC RANKINGS

1. MIAMI	5. VIRGINIA TECH	9. BOSTON COLLEGE
2. GEORGIA TECH	6. VIRGINIA	10. NC STATE
3. NORTH CAROLINA	7. FLORIDA STATE	11. WAKE FOREST
4. CLEMSON	8. MARYLAND	12. DUKE

1. Marvin Austin	DT	6'3"	295	Washington, D.C.	North Carolina
2. Tyrod Taylor	QB	6'2"	185	Hampton, VA	Virginia Tech
3. J'Courtney Williams	SLB	6'3"	218	Danville, VA	Virginia
4. Allen Bailey	LB	6'4"	255	Darien, GA	Miami
5. John Elliott	G	6'4"	280	East Meadow, NY	Boston College
6. Willy Korn	QB	6'2"	200	Lyman, SC	Clemson
7. Dionte Allen	CB	5'11"	175	Orchard Lake, MI	Florida State
8. Josh Nesbitt	QB	6'1"	204	Greensboro, GA	Georgia Tech
9. Greg Little	WR	6'3"	210	Durham, NC	North Carolina
10. Marcus Gilcrist	CB	5'11"	175	High Point, NC	Clemson
11. Tydreke Powell	DT	6'3"	290	Ahoskie, NC	North Carolina
12. Jonathan Dwyer	RB	6'0"	197	Marietta, GA	Georgia Tech
13. Rashad Mason	WR	6'5"	210	Nashville, TN	North Carolina
14. Robert Marve	QB	6'1"	190	Tampa, FL	Miami
15. Scotty Cooper	S	6'0"	206	Lake City, SC	Clemson
16. Will Alvarez	T	6'5"	315	Woodbridge, VA	Virginia Tech
17. Mike Paulus	QB	6'5"	220	Manlius, NY	North Carolina
18. Kourtnei Brown	DE	6'5"	230	Charlotte, NC	Clemson
19. Kendall Smith	MLB	6'1"	207	Bushnell, FL	Florida State
20. DeMarcus Van Dyke	CB	6'1"	170	Miami, FL	Miami

BIG TEN RANKINGS

1. MICHIGAN	5. IOWA	9. MINNESOTA
2. OHIO STATE	6. WISCONSIN	10. PURDUE
3. PENN STATE	7. MICHIGAN STATE	11. INDIANA
4. ILLINOIS	8. NORTHWESTERN	

1. Ryan Mallett	QB	6'6"	235	Texarkana, TX	Michigan
2. Arrelious Benn	WR	6'2"	210	Washington, D.C.	Illinois
3. Josh Oglesby	T	6'7"	320	Milwaukee, WI	Wisconsin
4. Donovan Warren	CB	6'0"	175	Long Beach, CA	Michigan
5. Eugene Clifford	S	6'2"	190	Cincinnati, OH	Ohio State
6. Martez Wilson	DE	6'4"	230	Chicago, IL	Illinois
7. Ryan Van Bergen	DE	6'5"	260	Whitehall, MI	Michigan
8. Michael Williams	CB	6'0"	190	Camarillo, CA	Michigan
9. Toney Clemons	WR	6'2"	205	New Kensington, PA	Michigan
10. Nick Sukay	S	6'2"	200	Mount Pleasant, PA	Penn State
11. Nate Oliver	S	6'0"	195	Lakewood, OH	Ohio State
12. Christian Ballard	DE	6'4"	270	Lawrence, KS	Iowa
13. Devon Torrence	S	6'1"	190	Canton, OH	Ohio State
14. Brandon Saine	RB	6'1"	205	Piqua, OH	Ohio State
15. D'Angelo McCray	DL	6'4"	290	Jacksonville, FL	Illinois
16. Stefen Wisniewski	G	6'3"	275	Bridgeville, PA	Penn State
17. James Scott	CB	5'10"	165	Daytona Beach, FL	Ohio State
18. Cameron Heyward	DT	6'6"	280	Suwanee, GA	Ohio State
19. Josh Brent	DT	6'3"	300	Bloomington, IL	Illinois
20. John Clay	RB	6'2"	220	Racine, WI	Wisconsin

BIG EAST RANKINGS

1. PITTSBURGH	4. SOUTH FLORIDA	7. CONNECTICUT
2. WEST VIRGINIA	5. SYRACUSE	8. CINCINNATI
3. RUTGERS	6. LOUISVILLE	

1. Noel Devine	RB	5'8"	170	North Fort Myers, FL	West Virginia
2. Anthony Davis	T	6'6"	350	Piscataway, NJ	Rutgers
3. Chris Jacobson	G	6'3"	285	Pittsburgh, PA	Pittsburgh
4. Pat Bostick	QB	6'3"	220	Lancaster, PA	Pittsburgh
5. Manny Abreu	WLB	6'3"	220	Union City, NJ	Rutgers
6. Doug Beaumont	WR	5'9"	180	Louisville, KY	Louisville
7. Tony Tucker	DE	6'2"	225	Washington D.C.	Pittsburgh
8. Junius Lewis	DT	6'2"	250	Morgantown, WV	West Virginia
9. Maurice Williams	WR	6'1"	190	Erie, PA	Pittsburgh
10. Dale Martin	RB	6'0"	190	Bolingbrook, IL	Louisville
11. Victor Anderson	RB	5'9"	175	Louisville, KY	Louisville
12. Myles Caragein	DE	6'2"	270	Pittsburgh, PA	Pittsburgh
13. Brandon Lindsey	SLB	6'2"	225	Aliquippa, PA	Pittsburgh
14. Dan Matha	T	6'6"	310	Erie, PA	Pittsburgh
15. Keith Newell	T	6'6"	290	Trenton, NJ	Rutgers
16. Dom DeCicco	S	6'3"	200	Jefferson, Hills PA	Pittsburgh
17. C.J. Peake	S	6'2"	210	Trotwood, OH	Louisville
18. Claude Davis	DE	6'4"	240	Lakeland, FL	South Florida
19. Joe Lefeged	S	6'0"	190	Germantown, MD	Rutgers
20. Doug Hogue	RB	6'2"	215	Yonkers NY	Syracuse

BIG 12 RANKINGS

1. TEXAS	5. OKLAHOMA	9. BAYLOR
2. NEBRASKA	6. COLORADO	10. KANSAS STATE
3. OKLAHOMA STATE	7. MISSOURI	11. IOWA STATE
4. TEXAS A&M	8. TEXAS TECH	12. KANSAS

1. Tray Allen	OL	6'5"	310	Grand Prairie, TX	Texas
2. Curtis Brown	CB	6'1"	175	Gilmer, TX	Texas
3. Ryan Miller	T	6'8"	310	Littleton, CO	Colorado
4. Dre Jones	DT	6'5"	295	El Paso, TX	Texas
5. John Chiles	WR	6'2"	197	Dallas TX	Texas
6. Richetti Jones	DE	6'4"	240	Dallas, TX	Oklahoma State
7. Austin Box	S	6'3"	220	Enid, OK	Oklahoma
8. Russell Carter	DE	6'3"	240	Houston, TX	Texas
9. Derrick Stephens	SLB	6'2"	228	Houston, TX	Texas A&M
10. Dez Bryant	WR	6'1"	220	Lufkin, TX	Oklahoma State
11. Ben Wells	CB	6'1"	185	Beaumont, TX	Texas
12. Chris Scott	S	6'0"	185	Dallas, TX	Texas
13. Earl Thomas	CB	5'10"	183	Orange, TX	Texas
14. James Kirkendoll	WR	5'11"	175	Round Rock, TX	Texas
15. Jaivorio Burkes	T	6'5"	315	Phoenix, AZ	Nebraska
16. William Cole	CB	6'0"	175	Cedar Hill, TX	Oklahoma State
17. Markques Simas	WR	6'2"	195	San Diego, CA	Colorado
18. Adrian Moore	S	6'0"	200	Pine Bluff, AR	Oklahoma State
19. Niles Paul	WR	6'1"	210	Omaha, NE	Nebraska
20. Damian Davis	WR	6'5"	190	Mart, TX	Oklahoma State

RECRUITING INFORMATION PROVIDED BY SCOUT.COM

RECRUITING BY CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE USA RANKINGS

1. UCF	5. EAST CAROLINA	9. SMU
2. HOUSTON	6. MEMPHIS	10. UTEP
3. SOUTHERN MISS	7. RICE	11. UAB
4. MARSHALL	8. TULSA	12. TULANE

1. Antwain Easterling	RB	5'11"	185	Miami, FL	Southern Miss
2. Alphonso Bryant	DB	6'0"	190	Florida City FL	UCF
3. Chris Tate	WR	6'0"	180	Hempstead, TX	Houston
4. A.J. Guyton	WR	5'11"	176	Naranja, FL	UCF
5. Kamar Aiken	ATH	6'2"	195	Hollywood, FL	UCF
6. Demarcus Lattier	DT	6'2"	285	Garland, TX	Houston
7. Chris Smith	QB	6'3"	220	South Point, OH	Marshall
8. Terrell Edwards	RB	6'2"	205	Mobile, AL	Marshall
9. Tyrell Worthington	RB	6'0"	180	Greenville NC	East Carolina
10. Charles Wood	T	6'5"	295	Gainesville, GA	Marshall
11. Linval Joseph	DT	6'6"	308	Alachua, FL	East Carolina
12. Rodney Cox	ATH	6'6"	230	Angier, NC	East Carolina
13. Branden Curry	T	6'6"	292	Hollywood, FL	Marshall
14. DaRonte McNeil	RB	6'2"	217	Elizabeth City, NC	East Carolina
15. Charles Opeseyitan	RB	5'10"	193	Allen, TX	Tulsa
16. Sidney Haynes	WR	6'4"	210	Suwanee, GA	UCF
17. De'Von Bailey	ATH	6'2"	200	Lawton, OK	SMU
18. Loyce Means	CB	5'10"	156	Houston, TX	Houston
19. Darnell Williams	WR	6'1"	185	Winter Park, FL	UCF
20. Brandon Thigpen	S	6'3"	200	Moreno Valley, CA	UTEP

MOUNTAIN WEST RANKINGS

1. BYU	4. SAN DIEGO STATE	7. UNLV
2. UTAH	5. COLORADO STATE	8. AIR FORCE
3. TCU	6. NEW MEXICO	9. WYOMING

1. Jason Munns	QB	6'5"	225	Kennewick, WA	BYU
2. Jeremy Kerley	WR	5'10"	185	Hutto, TX	TCU
3. Marcus Mathews	WR	6'4"	200	Beaverton, OR	BYU
4. Griff Robles	QB	6'5"	220	Spanish Fork, UT	Utah
5. Ryan Kessman	WR	6'0"	190	San Jacinto, CA	BYU
6. Ryan Lindley	QB	6'3"	205	Alpine, CA	San Diego State
7. J.J. Di Luigi	RB	5'9"	188	Canyon Country, CA	BYU
8. Star Lotulelei	DE	6'3"	245	South Jordan, UT	BYU
9. David Angilau	DT	6'2"	255	Longmont, CO	BYU
10. Tejay Johnson	S	6'1"	195	Garland, TX	TCU
11. James Aiono	DE	6'3"	245	W. Valley City, UT	Utah
12. Tekerrein Cuba	S	6'3"	197	Tyler, TX	TCU
13. James Davis	RB	5'9"	172	Monrovia, CA	Wyoming
14. G Pittman	CB	5'9"	175	Rancho Cucamonga, CA	BYU
15. Devin Mahina	TE	6'6"	225	Upland, CA	BYU
16. Michael Matamua	T	6'4"	280	Kapolei, HI	San Diego State
17. Vincent Brown Jr.	WR	6'0"	172	Rancho Cucamonga, CA	San Diego St.
18. Phillip Ofili	S	6'0"	185	Houston, TX	Air Force
19. Jonathan Jones	WR	6'3"	197	Fort Worth, TX	TCU
20. Jordan Pendleton	S	6'2"	195	South Jordan, UT	BYU

MAC RANKINGS

1. MIAMI	5. WESTERN MICHIGAN	9. CENTRAL MICHIGAN
2. AKRON	6. TEMPLE	10. EASTERN MICHIGAN
3. TOLEDO	7. KENT STATE	11. NORTHERN ILLINOIS
4. BALL STATE	8. OHIO	12. BOWLING GREEN
		13. BUFFALO

1. Clay Belton	QB	6'6"	220	Dayton, OH	Miami
2. Paul Simkovich	OL	6'4"	300	Latrobe, PA	Akron
3. Chris Givens	WR	6'2"	180	Chillicothe, OH	Miami
4. Morgan Williams	RB	6'0"	190	Canton, OH	Toledo
5. Matt Rodgers	QB	6'2"	195	Pittsburgh, PA	Akron
6. Travaris Cadet	QB	6'0"	196	Miami, FL	Toledo
7. Vincent Hill	WR	5'11"	175	Ft. Washington, MD	Akron
8. Brandon Brooks	OL	6'4"	290	Milwaukee, WI	Miami
9. Daryl Robinson	ATH	5'9"	175	Philadelphia, PA	Temple
10. Darrell Davis-Budanauro	OL	6'4"	350	Grand Rapids, MI	Eastern Michigan
11. Schneider Julien	WR	5'10"	175	Miami, FL	Western Michigan
12. Tommie Weatherspoon	LB	6'2"	245	Jesup, GA	Temple
13. Frank Edmonds	RB	5'6"	190	Cleveland, OH	Ball State
14. Bryan Williams	ATH	6'0"	195	Akron, OH	Akron
15. Josh Allison	DL	6'2"	245	Lake Orioin, MI	Central Michigan
16. Anthony Middleton	TE	6'4"	215	Deerfield Beach, FL	Western Michigan
17. Pete Rolf	DE	6'4"	220	Piqua, OH	Ball State
18. Andy Wersel	DE	6'0"	240	Mason, OH	Western Michigan
19. Amara Kamara	LB	6'1"	210	Newark, NJ	Temple
20. Marlin Parker	DE	6'2"	230	Warren, OH	Toledo

PAC-10 RANKINGS

1. USC	5. UCLA	8. STANFORD
2. OREGON	6. ARIZONA STATE	9. ARIZONA
3. CALIFORNIA	7. OREGON STATE	10. WASHINGTON STATE
4. WASHINGTON		

1. Everson Griffen	DE	6'3"	265	Avondale, AZ	USC
2. Joe McKnight	RB	6'0"	180	River Ridge, LA	USC
3. Marc Tyler	RB	6'0"	215	Yorba Linda, CA	USC
4. Chris Galippo	MLB	6'2"	235	Corona, CA	USC
5. Ronald Johnson	CB	6'1"	190	Muskegon, MI	USC
6. Aaron Corp	QB	6'3"	185	Villa Park, CA	USC
7. Kristofer O'Dowd	C	6'5"	290	Tucson, AZ	USC
8. Marshall Jones	S	6'0"	185	Agoura Hills, CA	USC
9. DaJohn Harris	DT	6'4"	270	Inglewood, CA	USC
10. Martin Coleman	T	6'5"	285	Huntington Beach, CA	USC
11. Brian Price	DT	6'3"	270	Los Angeles, CA	UCLA
12. Rob Gronkowski	TE	6'6"	250	Williamsville, NY	Arizona
13. Chris Izbicki	TE	6'3"	230	Kirkland, WA	Washington
14. Simi Fili	DT	6'4"	340	Salt Lake City, UT	Oregon
15. Broderick Green	RB	6'1"	230	Little Rock, AR	USC
16. Akeem Ayers	DE	6'2"	214	Los Angeles, CA	UCLA
17. Michael Reardon	DL	6'5"	265	Anaheim, CA	USC
18. Brandon Carswell	WR	6'2"	175	Milpitas, CA	USC
19. Terrance Pritchett	MLB	6'2"	201	Sacramento, CA	Oregon
20. Carson York	T	6'4"	285	Coeur d'Alene, ID	Oregon

RECRUITING INFORMATION PROVIDED BY SCOUT.COM

RECRUITING BY CONFERENCE

SEC RANKINGS

1. FLORIDA
2. TENNESSEE
3. LSU
4. AUBURN
5. SOUTH CAROLINA
6. GEORGIA
7. ALABAMA
8. MISSISSIPPI STATE
9. OLE MISS
10. ARKANSAS
11. KENTUCKY
12. VANDERBILT

1. Eric Berry	ATH	5'11"	195	Fairburn, GA	Tennessee
2. Terrance Toliver	WR	6'5"	180	Hempstead, TX	LSU
3. Chad Jones	S	6'2"	222	Baton Rouge, LA	LSU
4. Caleb King	RB	5'11"	205	Norcross, GA	Georgia
5. Ben Martin	DE	6'5"	230	Cincinnati, OH	Tennessee
6. Deonte Thompson	WR	5'11"	186	Belle Glade, FL	Florida
7. James Wilson	G	6'5"	305	St. Augustine, FL	Florida
8. Justin Trattou	DE	6'4"	250	Ramsey, NJ	Florida
9. Carlos Dunlap	DE	6'6"	240	North Charleston, SC	Florida
10. Aaron Hernandez	TE	6'4"	235	Bristol, CT	Florida
11. Joseph Barksdale	DT	6'6"	315	Detroit, MI	LSU
12. Lorenzo Edwards	WLB	6'2"	221	Orlando, FL	Florida
13. Cliff Matthews	DE	6'4"	234	Cheraw, SC	South Carolina
14. Kodi Burns	QB	6'2"	195	Fort Smith, AR	Auburn
15. Major Wright	S	6'1"	204	Miramar, FL	Florida
16. Chris Rainey	RB	5'9"	156	Lakeland, FL	Florida
17. Chris Donald	SLB	6'2"	220	Huntingdon, TN	Tennessee
18. Lee Ziemba	T	6'7"	295	Rogers, AR	Auburn
19. John Brantley	QB	6'3"	195	Ocala, FL	Florida
20. Chris Strong	SLB	6'2"	245	Batesville, MS	Ole Miss

SUN BELT RANKINGS

1. TROY
2. ARKANSAS STATE
3. MIDDLE TENNESSEE
4. FLORIDA INT'L
5. NORTH TEXAS
6. FLORIDA ATLANTIC
7. UL MONROE
8. UL LAFAYETTE

1. Paul Henry	T	6'8"	270	Fort Smith, AR	Arkansas State
2. Jeremiah Wright	G	6'3"	275	Fort Valley, GA	Troy
3. Eugene Kinlaw	DT	6'3"	280	Homerville, GA	Troy
4. Xavier Stinson	ATH	5'9"	225	Miami, FL	Florida Atlantic
5. Linzsy Harris	WR	5'9"	175	Hollywood, FL	Arkansas State
6. Stanley Porter	DE	6'4"	240	Rosedale, MS	Arkansas State
7. A.J. Penson	LB	6'1"	220	Lufkin, TX	North Texas
8. Darian Williams	WR	6'3"	195	North Lauderdale, FL	Florida Atlantic
9. Alvin Jordan Jr.	MLB	6'2"	225	Mesquite, TX	UL Monroe
10. Jamie Hampton	QB	6'2"	180	Cedar Bluff, AL	Troy
11. Jeffrey Daniels	SLB	6'1"	210	Brantley, AL	Troy
12. Bryan Mann	QB	6'3"	195	Belle Glade, FL	Florida International
13. Curtis Bryant	DT	6'3"	270	Miami, FL	Florida International
14. Walter Dozier	WR	6'0"	195	Chattanooga, TN	Middle Tennessee
15. Jerrel Jernigan	WR	5'10"	175	Eufaula, AL	Troy
16. Antwan Davis	SLB	6'1"	206	Fort Lauderdale, FL	Middle Tennessee
17. Micah Grimes	T	6'4"	300	Fort Meade, FL	Troy
18. William Anderson	FB	5'11"	228	St. Louis, MO	Arkansas State
19. Marquis Rolle	WR	6'3"	185	Orlando, FL	Florida International
20. Jarvis Givens	DT	6'3"	300	Miami, FL	Florida Atlantic

WAC RANKINGS

1. BOISE STATE
2. FRESNO STATE
3. IDAHO
4. HAWAII
5. LOUISIANA TECH
6. SAN JOSE STATE
7. NEVADA
8. UTAH STATE
9. NEW MEXICO STATE

1. Kellen Moore	QB	6'1"	180	Prosser, WA	Boise State
2. Porter Hill	DT	6'4"	275	Compton, CA	Fresno State
3. Jermaine Thomas	CB	5'11"	180	Duarte, CA	Fresno State
4. Antwon Murray	CB	5'11"	180	Lakeland, FL	Boise State
5. Corey White	RB	5'9"	199	Las Vegas, NV	Idaho
6. Devon Wylie	WR	5'9"	170	Roseville, CA	Fresno State
7. Johnny Tivao	DT	6'0"	295	Paramount, CA	Boise State
8. Phillip Livas	RB	5'8"	170	Houma, LA	Louisiana Tech
9. Duke Ihenacho	S	6'1"	200	Gardena, CA	San Jose State
10. Tarence Calais	S	5'11"	195	Patterson, LA	Louisiana Tech
11. Titus Young	WR	5'11"	170	Los Angeles, CA	Boise State
12. Lampford Mark	CB	6'1"	196	Fresno, CA	Nevada
13. Austin Pettis	WR	6'3"	190	Anaheim CA	Boise State
14. Billy Winn	DE	6'4"	270	Las Vegas, NV	Boise State
15. Devan Cunningham	T	6'6"	315	Rancho Cordora, CA	Fresno State
16. Hunter White	WLB	5'11"	205	Huntington Beach, CA	Boise State
17. Garrett Pendergast	G	6'3"	275	Whittier CA	Boise State
18. Chris Carter	SLB	6'2"	220	Fontana, CA	Fresno State
19. Eric Sproal	G	6'4"	280	Yorba Linda, CA	Fresno State
20. Andre Ferguson	SLB	6'3"	205	Redlands, CA	Idaho

TOP 50 RECRUITING CLASSES

1. Florida
2. USC
3. Texas
4. Tennessee
5. LSU
6. Auburn
7. South Carolina
8. Pittsburgh
9. Oregon
10. Michigan
11. Notre Dame
12. California
13. Miami
14. Georgia Tech
15. North Carolina
16. Ohio State
17. Georgia
18. Penn State
19. Illinois
20. Nebraska
21. Alabama
22. Clemson
23. Oklahoma State
24. Virginia Tech
25. West Virginia
26. Texas A&M
27. Mississippi State
28. Rutgers
29. Washington
30. Oklahoma
31. Ole Miss
32. Virginia
33. Florida State
34. Arkansas
35. Colorado
36. UCLA
37. Iowa
38. Arizona State
39. Missouri
40. Oregon State
41. Wisconsin
42. BYU
43. Stanford
44. Texas Tech
45. South Florida
46. Syracuse
47. Louisville
48. Maryland
49. Arizona
50. Boston College

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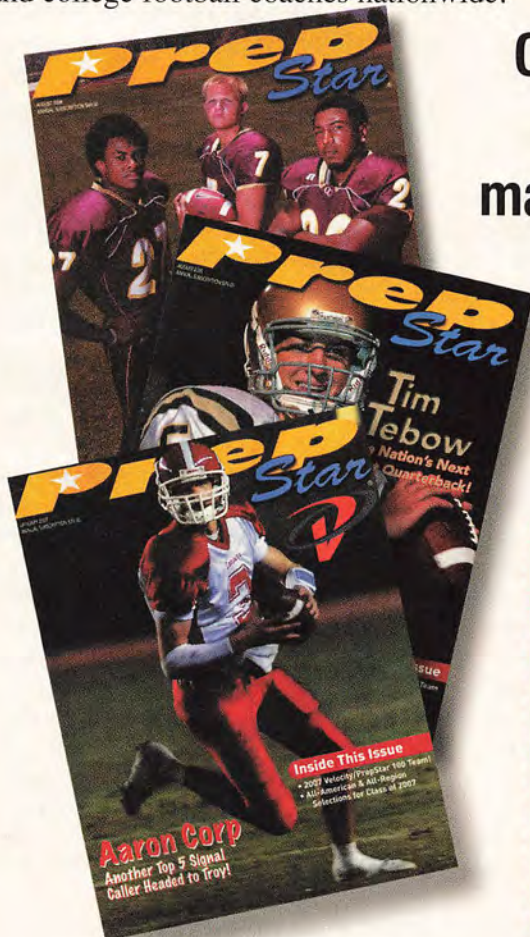
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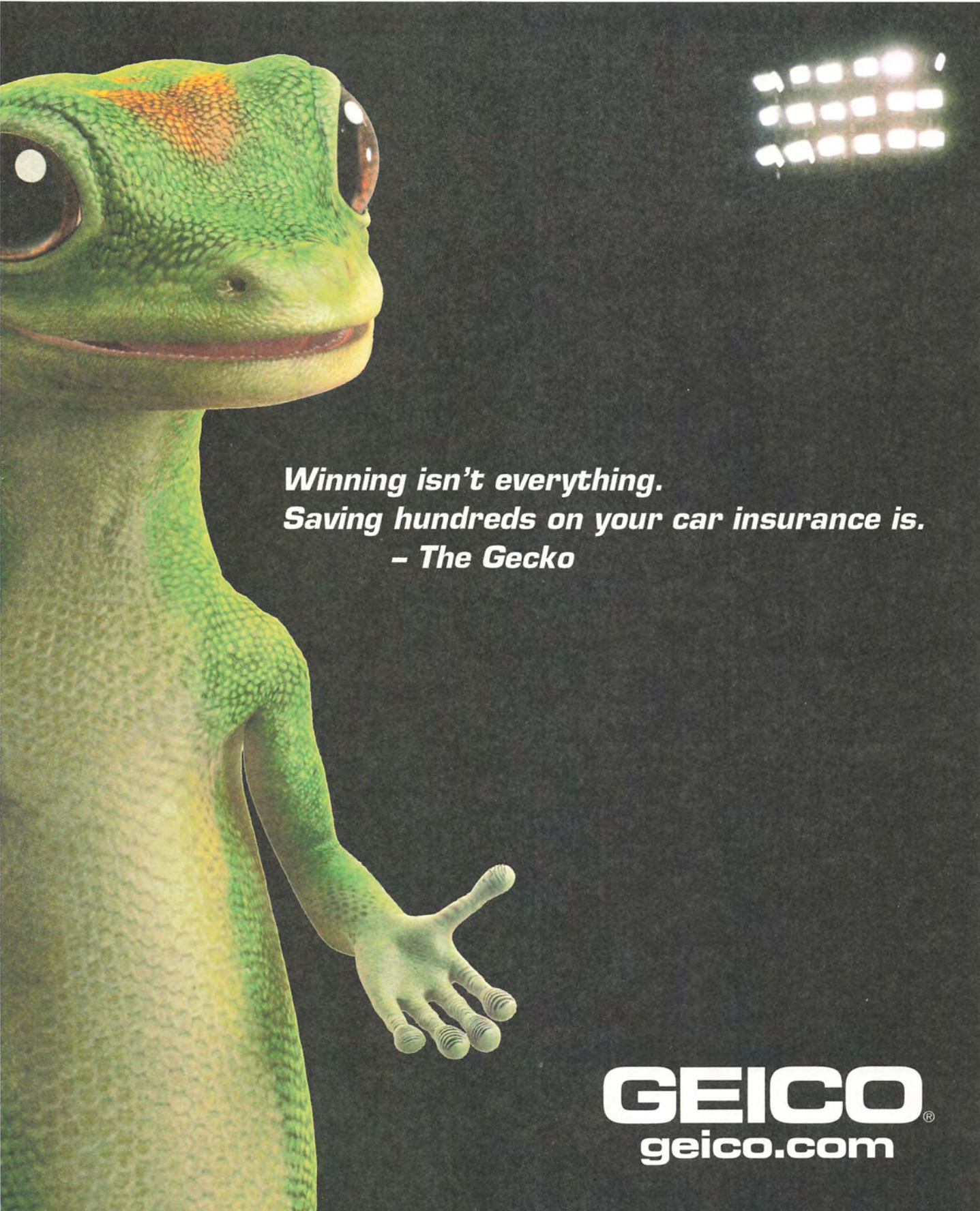
RECRUITING REPORT

TOP 100 INCOMING FRESHMEN

Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown	School	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown	School
1. Everson Griffen	DE	6'4"	265	Avondale, AZ	USC	51. Ryan Van Bergen	DE	6'5"	260	Whitehall, MI	Michigan
2. Joe McKnight	RB	6'0"	180	River Ridge, LA	USC	52. Michael Williams	CB	6'0"	190	Camarillo, CA	Michigan
3. Marvin Austin	DT	6'3"	295	Washington, D.C.	North Carolina	53. Lee Ziemba	T	6'7"	295	Rogers, AR	Auburn
4. Jimmy Clausen	QB	6'3"	207	Westlake Village, CA	Notre Dame	54. John Brantley	QB	6'3"	195	Ocala, FL	Florida
5. Ryan Mallett	QB	6'6"	235	Texarkana, TX	Michigan	55. John Elliott	G	6'4"	280	East Meadow, NY	Boston College
6. Marc Tyler	RB	6'0"	215	Yorba Linda, CA	USC	56. Mike Ragone	TE	6'5"	230	Cherry Hill, NJ	Notre Dame
7. Eric Berry	ATH	5'11"	195	Fairburn, GA	Tennessee	57. Ron Brooks	ATH	5'11"	180	Irving, TX	LSU
8. Tray Allen	OL	6'5"	310	Grand Prairie, TX	Texas	58. Mark Barnes	ATH	6'2"	189	Columbia, SC	South Carolina
9. Chris Galippo	MLB	6'2"	235	Corona, CA	USC	59. Richetti Jones	DE	6'4"	240	Dallas, TX	Oklahoma State
10. Terrance Toliver	WR	6'5"	180	Hempstead, TX	LSU	60. DeAngelo Benton	WR	6'3"	190	Bastrop, LA	LSU
11. Chad Jones	S	6'3"	222	Baton Rouge, LA	LSU	61. Austin Box	S	6'3"	220	Enid, OK	Oklahoma
12. Arrelious Benn	WR	6'2"	210	Washington, D.C.	Illinois	62. Willy Korn	QB	6'2"	200	Lyman, SC	Clemson
13. Ronald Johnson	CB	6'1"	190	Muskegon, MI	USC	63. Rob Gronkowski	TE	6'6"	250	Williamsville, NY	Arizona
14. Curtis Brown	CB	6'1"	175	Gilmer, TX	Texas	64. Duval Kamara	WR	6'4"	205	Hoboken, NJ	Notre Dame
15. Noel Devine	RB	5'8"	170	N. Fort Myers, FL	West Virginia	65. Robert Elliott	RB	6'0"	188	Okolona, MS	Mississippi State
16. Torrey Davis	DT	6'4"	285	Seffner, FL	Florida	66. Dionte Allen	CB	5'11"	175	Orchard Lake, MI	Florida State
17. Josh Oglesby	T	6'7"	320	Milwaukee, WI	Wisconsin	67. Ahmad Paige	WR	6'3"	175	Sterlington, LA	Tennessee
18. Aaron Corp	QB	6'3"	185	Villa Park CA	USC	68. Toney Clemons	WR	6'2"	205	New Kensington, PA	Michigan
19. Caleb King	RB	5'11"	205	Norcross, GA	Georgia	69. Chris Izbicki	TE	6'3"	230	Kirkland, WA	Washington
20. Anthony Davis	T	6'6"	350	Piscataway, NJ	Rutgers	70. Stefoin Francois	S	6'1"	200	Reserve, LA	LSU
21. Ben Martin	DE	6'5"	230	Cincinnati, OH	Tennessee	71. Jerimy Finch	S	6'1"	203	Indianapolis, IN	Florida
22. Deonte Thompson	WR	5'11"	186	Belle Glade, FL	Florida	72. Nick Sukay	S	6'2"	200	Mount Pleasant, PA	Penn State
23. Kristofer O'Dowd	C	6'5"	290	Tucson, AZ	USC	73. Robert Hughes	RB	5'11"	230	Chicago, IL	Notre Dame
24. Donovan Warren	CB	6'0"	175	Long Beach, CA	Michigan	74. Gary Gray	CB	5'11"	178	Columbia, SC	Notre Dame
25. Eugene Clifford	S	6'2"	190	Cincinnati, OH	Ohio State	75. Gerald Jones	WR	6'0"	185	Oklahoma City, OK	Tennessee
26. Ryan Miller	T	6'8"	310	Littleton, CO	Colorado	76. Josh Nesbitt	QB	6'1"	204	Greensboro, GA	Georgia Tech
27. Tyrod Taylor	QB	6'2"	185	Hampton, VA	Virginia Tech	77. Nate Oliver	S	6'0"	195	Lakewood, OH	Ohio State
28. Martez Wilson	DE	6'4"	230	Chicago, IL	Illinois	78. Greg Little	WR	6'3"	210	Durham, NC	North Carolina
29. J'Courtney Williams	SLB	6'3"	218	Danville VA	Virginia	79. Christian Ballard	DE	6'4"	270	Lawrence, KS	Iowa
30. Dre Jones	DT	6'5"	295	El Paso, TX	Texas	80. Lennon Creer	RB	6'1"	202	Tatum, TX	Tennessee
31. John Chiles	WR	6'2"	197	Dallas, TX	Texas	81. Russell Carter	DE	6'3"	240	Houston, TX	Texas
32. James Wilson	G	6'5"	305	St. Augustine, FL	Florida	82. Devon Torrence	S	6'1"	190	Canton, OH	Ohio State
33. Justin Trattou	DE	6'4"	250	Ramsey, NJ	Florida	83. Chris Strong	SLB	6'2"	245	Batesville, MS	Ole Miss
34. Carlos Dunlap	DE	6'6"	240	North Charleston, SC	Florida	84. Luther Davis	DE	6'3"	280	West Monroe, LA	Alabama
35. Aaron Hernandez	TE	6'4"	235	Bristol, CT	Florida	85. Simi Fili	DT	6'4"	340	Salt Lake City, UT	Oregon
36. Joseph Barksdale	DT	6'6"	315	Detroit, MI	LSU	86. Derrick Stephens	SLB	6'2"	228	Houston, TX	Texas A&M
37. Marshall Jones	S	6'0"	185	Agoura Hills, CA	USC	87. Dez Bryant	WR	6'1"	220	Lufkin, TX	Oklahoma State
38. John Brown	DT	6'1"	285	Lakeland, FL	Florida	88. Brandon Saine	RB	6'1"	205	Piqua, OH	Ohio State
39. Chris Jacobson	G	6'3"	285	Pittsburgh, PA	Pittsburgh	89. Manny Abreu	WLB	6'3"	220	Union City, NJ	Rutgers
40. Lorenzo Edwards	WLB	6'2"	221	Orlando, FL	Florida	90. D'Angelo McCray	DL	6'4"	290	Jacksonville, FL	Illinois
41. Cliff Matthews	DE	6'4"	234	Cheraw, SC	South Carolina	91. Marcus Gilcrist	CB	5'11"	175	High Point, NC	Clemson
42. Kodi Burns	QB	6'2"	195	Fort Smith, AR	Auburn	92. Broderick Green	RB	6'1"	230	Little Rock, AR	USC
43. Major Wright	S	6'1"	204	Miramar, FL	Florida	93. Akeem Ayers	DE	6'2"	214	Los Angeles, CA	UCLA
44. DaJohn Harris	DT	6'4"	270	Inglewood CA	USC	94. Tydreke Powell	DT	6'3"	290	Ahoskie, NC	North Carolina
45. Chris Rainey	RB	5'9"	156	Lakeland, FL	Florida	95. Jonathan Dwyer	RB	6'0"	197	Marietta, GA	Georgia Tech
46. Allen Bailey	LB	6'4"	255	Darien, GA	Miami	96. John Williams	CB	5'11"	175	Breaux Bridge, LA	LSU
47. Chris Donald	SLB	6'2"	220	Huntingdon, TN	Tennessee	97. Ryan Pugh	C	6'2"	275	Hoover, AL	Auburn
48. Pat Bostick	QB	6'3"	220	Lititz, PA	Pittsburgh	98. Rashad Mason	WR	6'5"	210	Nashville, TN	North Carolina
49. Martin Coleman	T	6'5"	285	Huntington Beach, CA	USC	99. Michael Reardon	DL	6'5"	265	Anaheim, CA	USC
50. Brian Price	DT	6'3"	270	Los Angeles, CA	UCLA	100. Stefan Wisniewski	G	6'3"	275	Bridgeville, PA	Penn State

*Facing eligibility issues

RECRUITING INFORMATION PROVIDED BY SCOUT.COM

A large green gecko with orange markings on its head is shown in profile, looking towards the upper right. In the background, a grid of bright stadium lights is visible against a dark sky. The gecko's right arm is extended downwards.

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TOP RISING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

QUARTERBACKS

Darius Banks	6'1"	180	Culver City, CA
Jacob Charest	6'3"	190	Matthews, NC
Dayne Christ	6'5"	225	Sherman Oaks, CA
Riley Dodge	5'11"	180	Southlake, TX
Seth Doege	6'2"	200	Wolfforth, TX
Tommy Dorman	6'3"	205	Haltom City, TX
Blaine Gabbert	6'4"	225	Ballwin, MO

QUARTERBACKS

Mike Glennon	6'6"	195	Chantilly, VA
Jacory Harris	6'3"	175	Miami, FL
D.C. Jefferson	6'6"	225	Winter Haven, FL
Landry Jones	6'5"	215	Artesia, NM
Conner Kempe	6'4"	215	North Palm Beach, FL
Dominick LeGrande	6'2"	190	Staten Island, NY
Andrew Luck	6'3"	195	Houston, TX

QUARTERBACKS

Randall Mackey	6'0"	175	Bastrop, LA
Kyle Parker	6'1"	180	Jacksonville, FL
Kale Pick	6'2"	195	Dodge City, KS
Terelle Pryor	6'6"	210	Jeannette, PA
Tommy Reamon	6'2"	190	Gloucester, VA
Justin Tuggle	6'3"	195	Duluth, GA

RUNNING BACKS

Brandon Barnes	6'0"	180	Bunn, NC
Ryan Bass	5'10"	185	Corona, CA
Jermie Calhoun	6'0"	195	Van, TX
British Footman	5'11"	178	Tallahassee, FL
Cyrus Gray	5'11"	190	Desoto, TX
Jonas Gray	5'11"	214	Beverly Hills, CA
Josh Haden	5'8"	190	Fort Washington, MD
Jeremy Hills	5'11"	185	Houston, TX
Justin Johnson	6'1"	205	Gilmer, TX
Milton Knox	5'9"	200	Van Nuys, CA
Alonzo Landry	5'10"	205	Lafayette, LA
Sam McGuffie	5'11"	190	Cypress, TX
Tre Newton	6'0"	195	Southlake, TX
Richard Samuel	6'0"	190	Cartersville, GA
Darrell Scott	6'1"	205	Ventura, CA
Sausan Shakerin	6'3"	200	Sandy, UT
Eric Smith	5'10"	220	Armwood, MD
Greg Wanamaker	6'1"	195	Cherry Hill, NJ
Richard Watson	6'1"	220	Tallahassee, FL
Marselius Williams	6'0"	210	Sacramento, CA

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

Mike Adams	6'7"	300	Dublin, OH
Michael Brewster	6'6"	305	Orlando, FL
Daniel Campbell	6'6"	325	Houston, TX
Stephen Good	6'4"	290	Paris, TX
Matt Hall	6'8"	320	Dardanelle, AR
A.J. Harmon	6'5"	328	Louisville, GA
Josh Jenkins	6'4"	285	Parkersburg, WV
Matt Kalil	6'8"	280	Anaheim, CA
Senio Kelemete	6'4"	255	Seattle, WA
Kyle Long	6'7"	275	Charlottesville, VA
Tyler Love	6'7"	270	Mountain Brook, AL
Matt Meyer	6'8"	285	Stockton, CA
Vinston Painter	6'5"	315	Norfolk, VA
Matt Patchan	6'6"	250	Tampa, FL
Graham Pocic	6'7"	300	Lemont, IL
Greg Shaw	6'6"	280	Miami, FL
J.B. Shugarts	6'7"	302	Klein, TX
David Snow	6'4"	295	Gilmer, TX
Baker Steinkuhler	6'6"	275	Lincoln, NE
Tyron Smith	6'5"	261	Moreno Valley, CA

LINEBACKERS

Brandon Beachum	6'0"	220	Youngstown, OH
Nigel Bradham	6'2"	225	Crawfordville, FL
Arthur Brown	6'2"	225	Wichita, KS
Ramon Buchanan	6'1"	190	Melbourne, FL
Steve Filer	6'2"	210	Chicago, IL
Shayne Hale	6'4"	220	Monroeville, PA
Chris Jordan	6'2"	208	Brentwood, TN
Uona Kaveinga	6'1"	235	Lawndale, CA
Duane Maddox	6'2"	220	Shelby, NC
Jon Major	6'4"	225	Parker, CO
Lerentee McCray	6'2"	200	Dunnellon, FL
Anthony McDonald	6'3"	220	Sherman Oaks, CA
Spencer Reeves	6'2"	205	Dallas, TX
Ryan Roberson	6'2"	205	Brenham, TX
Damian Square	6'3"	230	Houston, TX
Bruce Taylor	6'3"	220	Myrtle Beach, SC
Devoe Torrence	6'2"	215	Canton, OH
Andrew Sweat	6'3"	230	Washington, PA
Christian Wilson	6'3"	234	McKees Rocks, PA
Marcus Witherspoon	6'2"	210	Absecon, NJ

WIDE RECEIVERS

A.J. Alexander	5'9"	184	Altoona, PA
Jonathan Baldwin	6'6"	200	Aliquippa, PA
DeAndre Brown	6'6"	200	Ocean Springs, MS
Dan Buckner	6'4"	200	Allen, TX
Averin Collier	5'11"	195	Churchville, NY
Michael Floyd	6'3"	200	St. Paul, MN
A.J. Green	6'4"	190	Summerville, SC
Brandon Green	6'0"	175	Chicago, IL
Josh Jarboe	6'3"	195	Ellenwood, GA
Aldarius Johnson	6'3"	190	Miami, FL
Julio Jones	6'4"	212	Foley, AL
Timothy Molton	6'3"	190	Destrehan, LA
Martavious Odoms	5'8"	170	Pahokee, FL
Jameel Owens	6'2"	200	Muskogee, OK
D.J. Shoemate	6'1"	205	Anaheim, CA
Jacob Stoneburner	6'5"	215	Dublin, OH
Kenny Tate	6'4"	195	Hyattsville, MD
Chris Tolliver	6'0"	195	Rayville, LA
Marcus Sales	6'2"	185	Syracuse, NY
Brandon Smith	6'2"	200	New Brunswick, NJ

DEFENSIVE ENDS

E.J. Abrams-Ward	6'5"	210	Thomasville, NC
Chase Clement	6'5"	240	Thibodaux, LA
Quinton Coples	6'6"	230	Kinston, NC
Alfred Dupree	6'3"	210	Dallas, TX
Darius Fleming	6'3"	230	Chicago, IL
Glen Harbin	6'5"	230	Mobile, AL
Dexter Heyman	6'4"	220	Louisville, KY
Damien Holmes	6'4"	255	Colton, CA
Wes Horton	6'5"	236	Sherman Oaks, CA
Malik Jackson	6'4"	210	Van Nuys, CA
Toby Jackson	6'4"	245	Griffin, GA
Jamaar Jarrett	6'5"	240	San Marcos, CA
Datone Jones	6'4"	240	Compton, CA
Brandon Lewis	6'3"	260	Pleasant Grove, AL
Nathan Lewis	6'4"	250	Hahnville, LA
Robert Quinn	6'4"	255	North Charleston, SC
Everette Thompson	6'4"	240	Burien, WA
Andre Wadley	6'4"	255	Hernando, MS
Cornelius Washington	6'4"	224	Waynesboro, GA
R.J. Washington	6'4"	235	Keller, TX

CORNERBACKS

Robert Blanton	6'1"	170	Matthews, NC
Brandon Boykin	5'11"	170	Fayetteville, GA
Xavier Brewer	5'10"	170	Jacksonville, FL
T.J. Bryant	6'0"	175	Tallahassee, FL
Boubacar Cissoko	5'9"	175	Detroit, MI
Arceto Clark	5'10"	165	Shannon, MS
Victor Daniels	5'8"	181	Waycross, GA
Brock Fitzhenry	5'9"	175	Giddings, TX
Robert Golden	6'0"	185	Fresno, CA
Brandon Harris	5'11"	165	Miami, FL
Jarred Holley	5'11"	165	Easton, PA
Janoris Jenkins	5'11"	180	Pahokee, FL
Patrick Johnson	6'0"	190	Pompano Beach, FL
D.J. Monroe	5'9"	165	Angleton, TX
Rahim Moore	6'2"	190	Los Angeles, CA
Junior Okpara	6'1"	180	Sugar Land, TX
Terrance Parks	6'1"	200	Fairburn, GA
Kevin Whaley	5'9"	170	Virginia Beach, VA
Charles Whitlock	5'11"	180	Chester, SC
Aaron Williams	6'0"	170	Austin, TX

TIGHT ENDS

Dwayne Allen	6'4"	230	Fayetteville, NC
Blake Ayles	6'4"	235	Orange, CA
Undra Billingsley	6'3"	245	Birmingham, AL
Matt Branch	6'6"	240	Sterlington, LA
Ben Cotton	6'6"	210	Ames, IA
Nic DiLillo	6'5"	225	Madison, OH
Aaron Douglas	6'6"	230	Maryville, TN
Tyler Edwards	6'3"	225	Monroe, LA
Joseph Fauria	6'7"	250	Encino, CA
Hubie Graham	6'4"	225	Scranton, PA
Austin Holt	6'5"	225	South Jordan, UT
Andrew Jones	6'6"	225	Smithville, MO
Dion Jordan	6'6"	210	Chandler, AZ
Jarel Lowery	6'4"	280	Paterson, NJ
Kavario Middleton	6'6"	245	Lakewood, WA
Brandon Moore	6'6"	220	Trotwood, OH
Kyle Rudolph	6'7"	235	Cincinnati, OH
Ryan Wallace	6'6"	230	Bowling Green, KY
Mark Wedderburn	6'5"	235	Springfield, PA

DEFENSIVE TACKLES

Lavunce Askew	6'3"	265	Camden, AR
Steven Barnett	6'2"	265	Indianapolis, IN
Daquan Bowers	6'5"	270	Bamberg, SC
Sean Cwynar	6'3"	284	Woodstock, IL
Roderick Davis	6'3"	295	Houston, TX
Adren Dorsey	6'4"	280	Tyler, TX
Reggie Ellis	6'3"	270	Washington D.C.
Marty Everett	6'4"	288	Bushnell, FL
Marcus Fortson	6'2"	290	Miami, FL
Tony Gillespie	6'1"	298	Jenks, OK
Garrett Goebel	6'5"	270	Lombard, IL
Templeton Hardy	6'4"	280	Sardis, MS
Omar Hunter	6'1"	295	Buford, GA
Ethan Johnson	6'4"	260	Portland, OR
Solomon Koehler	6'2"	315	Kaneohe, HI
Stacey McGee	6'3"	270	Muskogee, OK
Luke Nix	6'5"	280	Clairmont, PA
Kheeston Randall	6'4"	270	Beaumont, TX
Joel Ross	6'2"	300	Houma, LA
Deangelo Tyson	6'2"	275	Statesboro, GA

SAFETIES

Spencer Adams	6'2"	185	Matthews, NC
Darius Barksdale	6'1"	188	Batesville, MS
Nolan Brewster	6'1"	190	Denver, CO
LaRon Byrd	6'1"	178	Boutte, LA
Keanon Cooper	6'0"	195	Dallas, TX
Matt Daniels	6'1"	195	Fayetteville, GA
Dee Finley	6'3"	198	Auburn, AL
Karnell Hatcher	6'1"	185	Delray Beach, FL
Will Hill	6'3"	195	Jersey City, NJ
Chris Jackson	6'1"	190	McDonough, GA
Rotell Jenkins	6'2"	180	Richmond, VA
Dan McCarthy	6'2"	190	Youngstown, OH
Antwon Moutra	6'3"	190	Culver City, CA
Robert Sands	6'4"	200	Miami, FL
Darrell Simmons	6'2"	201	College Park, GA
Maurice Simmons	6'2"	205	Compton, CA
Brian Sommer	6'1"	170	Alcoa, TN
Kye Staley	6'0"	200	Guthrie, OK
Eddie Whitley	6'0"	185	Matthews, NC
E.J. Woods	6'1"	205	Encino, CA

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Select one golfer from each of the five groups below. There are 6 golfers in each group and each one costs between 1 and 6 points to place on your fantasy golf team. You have only 23 points to pick all 5 golfers. You earn in points what your golfers earn in tournament winnings. Results will be posted on the Monday after each tournament by 1 p.m. EST. Please review the [FAQ](#) for more information on the ratings or read the F.A.Q. on our [Support page](#).

Round 3
Madison Championship - Thursday, May 3rd

STATBOX
Round 2
Points: 65.78
Rank: 31/939
Cumulative
Points: 464.54
Rank: 139/581

Group A	Golfer	Rating	Cost	Value
TIGER WOODS	Tiger Woods	5.0	5	6
	Vijay Singh	4.0	4	5
	Phil Mickelson	3.0	3	4
	Retief Goosen	2.0	2	3
	Ernie Els	1.0	1	2
	Jim Furyk	0.0	0	1

You have 10 Value Points Remaining

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PRESENTS

2007 COLLEGE FOOTBALL SCHEDULES

ACC

BOSTON COLLEGE (10-3)

Chestnut Hill, MA
S. 1 Wake Forest
S. 8 NC State
S. 15 at Georgia Tech
S. 22 Army
S. 29 Massachusetts
O. 6 Bowling Green
O. 13 at Notre Dame
O. 25 at Virginia Tech
N. 3 Florida State
N. 10 at Maryland
N. 17 at Clemson
N. 24 Miami

CLEMSON (8-5)

Clemson, SC
S. 3 Florida State
S. 8 UL Monroe
S. 15 Furman
S. 22 at NC State
S. 29 at Georgia Tech
O. 6 Virginia Tech
O. 20 Central Michigan
O. 27 at Maryland
N. 3 at Duke
N. 10 Wake Forest
N. 17 Boston College
N. 24 at South Carolina

DUKE (0-12)

Durham, NC
S. 1 Connecticut
S. 8 at Virginia
S. 15 at Northwestern
S. 22 at Navy
S. 29 at Miami
O. 6 Wake Forest
O. 13 Virginia Tech
O. 27 at Florida State
N. 3 Clemson
N. 10 Georgia Tech
N. 17 at Notre Dame
N. 24 at North Carolina

FLORIDA STATE (7-6)

Tallahassee, FL
S. 3 at Clemson
S. 8 UAB
S. 15 at Colorado
S. 29 at Alabama
O. 6 NC State
O. 11 at Wake Forest
O. 20 Miami
O. 27 Duke
N. 3 at Boston College
N. 10 at Virginia Tech
N. 17 Maryland
N. 24 at Florida
#Jacksonville, FL

GEORGIA TECH (9-5)

Atlanta, GA
S. 1 at Notre Dame
S. 8 Samford
S. 15 Boston College
S. 22 at Virginia
S. 29 Clemson
O. 6 at Maryland
O. 13 at Miami
O. 20 Army
N. 1 Virginia Tech
N. 10 at Duke
N. 17 North Carolina
N. 24 Georgia

MARYLAND (9-4)

College Park, MD
S. 1 Villanova
S. 8 at Florida International
S. 13 West Virginia
S. 22 at Wake Forest
S. 29 at Rutgers
O. 6 Georgia Tech
O. 20 Virginia
O. 27 Clemson
N. 3 at North Carolina
N. 10 Boston College
N. 17 at Florida State
N. 24 at NC State

MIAMI (7-6)

Coral Gables, FL
S. 1 Marshall
S. 8 at Oklahoma
S. 15 Florida International
S. 20 Texas A&M
S. 29 Duke
O. 6 at North Carolina
O. 13 Georgia Tech
O. 20 at Florida State
N. 3 NC State
N. 10 Virginia
N. 17 at Virginia Tech
N. 24 at Boston College

NORTH CAROLINA (3-9)

Chapel Hill, NC
S. 1 James Madison
S. 8 at East Carolina
S. 15 Virginia
S. 22 at South Florida
S. 29 at Virginia Tech
O. 6 Miami
O. 13 South Carolina
O. 27 at Wake Forest
N. 3 Maryland
N. 10 at NC State
N. 17 at Georgia Tech
N. 24 Duke

NC STATE (3-9)

Raleigh, NC
S. 1 UCF
S. 8 at Boston College
S. 15 Wofford
S. 22 Clemson
S. 29 Louisville
O. 6 at Florida State
O. 20 at East Carolina
O. 27 Virginia
N. 3 at Miami
N. 10 North Carolina
N. 17 at Wake Forest
N. 24 Maryland

VIRGINIA (5-7)

Charlottesville, VA
S. 1 at Wyoming
S. 8 Duke
S. 15 at North Carolina
S. 22 Georgia Tech
S. 29 Pittsburgh
O. 6 at Middle Tennessee
O. 13 Connecticut
O. 20 at Maryland
O. 27 at NC State
N. 3 Wake Forest
N. 10 at Miami
N. 24 Virginia Tech

VIRGINIA TECH (10-3)

Blacksburg, VA
S. 1 East Carolina
S. 8 at LSU
S. 15 Ohio
S. 22 William & Mary
S. 29 North Carolina
O. 6 at Clemson
O. 13 at Duke
O. 25 Boston College
N. 1 at Georgia Tech
N. 10 Florida State
N. 17 Miami
N. 24 at Virginia

WAKE FOREST (11-3)

Winston-Salem, NC
S. 1 at Boston College
S. 8 Nebraska
S. 15 Army
S. 22 Maryland
O. 6 at Duke
O. 11 Florida State
O. 20 at Navy
O. 27 North Carolina
N. 3 at Virginia
N. 10 at Clemson
N. 17 NC State
N. 24 at Vanderbilt

BIG EAST

CINCINNATI (8-5)

Cincinnati, OH
A. 30 SE Missouri State
S. 6 Oregon State
S. 15 at Miami (OH)
S. 22 Marshall
S. 29 at San Diego State
O. 6 at Rutgers
O. 13 Louisville
O. 20 at Pittsburgh
N. 3 at South Florida
N. 10 Connecticut
N. 17 West Virginia
N. 24 at Syracuse

CONNECTICUT (4-8)

Storrs, CT
S. 1 at Duke
S. 8 Maine
S. 15 Temple
S. 22 at Pittsburgh
S. 29 Akron
O. 13 at Virginia
O. 20 Louisville
O. 27 South Florida
N. 3 Rutgers
N. 10 at Cincinnati
N. 17 Syracuse
N. 24 at West Virginia

LOUISVILLE (12-1)

Louisville, KY
A. 30 Murray State
S. 6 Middle Tennessee
S. 15 at Kentucky
S. 22 Syracuse
S. 29 at NC State
O. 5 Utah
O. 13 at Cincinnati
O. 20 at Connecticut
O. 27 Pittsburgh
N. 8 at West Virginia
N. 17 at South Florida
N. 29 Rutgers

PITTSBURGH (6-6)

Pittsburgh, PA
S. 1 Eastern Michigan
S. 8 Grambling
S. 15 at Michigan State
S. 22 Connecticut
S. 29 at Virginia
O. 13 Navy
O. 20 Cincinnati
O. 27 at Louisville
N. 3 Syracuse
N. 17 at Rutgers
N. 24 South Florida
D. 1 at West Virginia

RUTGERS (11-2)

New Brunswick, NJ
A. 30 Buffalo
S. 7 Navy
S. 15 Norfolk State
S. 29 Maryland
O. 6 Cincinnati
O. 13 at Syracuse
O. 18 South Florida
O. 27 West Virginia
N. 3 at Connecticut
N. 9 at Army
N. 17 Pittsburgh
N. 29 at Louisville

SOUTH FLORIDA (9-4)

Tampa, FL
S. 1 Elon
S. 8 at Auburn
S. 22 North Carolina
S. 29 West Virginia
O. 6 at Florida Atlantic
O. 13 UCF
O. 18 at Rutgers
O. 27 at Connecticut
N. 3 Cincinnati
N. 10 at Syracuse
N. 17 Louisville
N. 24 at Pittsburgh

SYRACUSE (4-8)

Syracuse, NY
A. 31 Washington
S. 8 at Iowa
S. 15 Illinois
S. 22 at Louisville
S. 29 at Miami (OH)
O. 6 West Virginia
O. 13 Rutgers
O. 20 Buffalo
N. 3 at Pittsburgh
N. 10 South Florida
N. 17 at Connecticut
N. 24 Cincinnati

WEST VIRGINIA (11-2)

Morgantown, WV
S. 1 Western Michigan
S. 8 at Marshall
S. 13 at Maryland
S. 22 East Carolina
S. 29 at South Florida
O. 6 at Syracuse
O. 20 Mississippi State
O. 27 at Rutgers
N. 8 Louisville
N. 17 at Cincinnati
N. 24 Connecticut
D. 1 Pittsburgh

BIG TEN

ILLINOIS (2-10)

Champaign, IL
S. 1 #Missouri
S. 8 Western Illinois
S. 15 at Syracuse
S. 22 at Indiana
S. 29 Penn State
O. 6 Wisconsin
O. 13 at Iowa
O. 20 Michigan
O. 27 Ball State
N. 3 at Minnesota
N. 10 at Ohio State
N. 17 Northwestern
#St. Louis, MO

INDIANA (5-7)

Bloomington, IN
S. 1 Indiana State
S. 8 at Western Michigan
S. 15 Akron
S. 22 Illinois
S. 29 at Iowa
O. 6 Minnesota
O. 13 at Michigan State
O. 20 Penn State
O. 27 at Wisconsin
N. 3 Ball State
N. 10 at Northwestern
N. 17 Purdue

IOWA (6-7)

Iowa City, IA
S. 1 #Northern Illinois
S. 8 Syracuse
S. 15 at Iowa State
S. 22 at Wisconsin
S. 29 Indiana
O. 6 at Penn State
O. 13 Illinois
O. 20 at Purdue
O. 27 Michigan State
N. 3 at Northwestern
N. 10 Minnesota
N. 17 Northwestern
#Chicago, IL

MICHIGAN (11-2)

Ann Arbor, MI
S. 1 Appalachian State
S. 8 Oregon
S. 15 Notre Dame
S. 22 Penn State
S. 29 at Northwestern
O. 6 Eastern Michigan
O. 13 Purdue
O. 20 at Illinois
O. 27 Minnesota
N. 3 at Michigan State
N. 10 at Wisconsin
N. 17 Ohio State

MICHIGAN STATE (4-8)

East Lansing, MI
S. 1 UAB
S. 8 Bowling Green
S. 15 Pittsburgh
S. 22 at Notre Dame
S. 29 at Wisconsin
O. 6 Northwestern
O. 13 Indiana
O. 20 at Ohio State
O. 27 at Iowa
N. 3 Michigan
N. 10 at Purdue
N. 17 Penn State

MINNESOTA (6-7)

Minneapolis, MN
S. 1 Bowling Green
S. 8 Miami (OH)
S. 15 #Florida Atlantic
S. 22 Purdue
S. 29 Ohio State
O. 6 at Indiana
O. 13 at Northwestern
O. 20 North Dakota State
O. 27 at Michigan
N. 3 Illinois
N. 10 at Iowa
N. 17 Wisconsin
#Miami, FL

NORTHWESTERN (4-8)

Evanston, IL
S. 1 Northeastern
S. 8 Nevada
S. 15 Duke
S. 22 at Ohio State
S. 29 Michigan
O. 6 at Michigan State
O. 13 Minnesota
O. 20 #Eastern Michigan
O. 27 at Purdue
N. 3 Iowa
N. 10 Indiana
N. 17 at Illinois
#Detroit, MI

OHIO STATE (12-1)

Columbus, OH
S. 1 Youngstown State
S. 8 Akron
S. 15 at Washington
S. 22 Northwestern
S. 29 at Minnesota
O. 6 at Purdue
O. 13 Kent State
O. 20 Michigan State
O. 27 at Penn State
N. 3 Wisconsin
N. 10 Illinois
N. 17 at Michigan

PENN STATE (9-4)

University Park, PA
S. 1 Florida International
S. 8 Notre Dame
S. 15 Buffalo
S. 22 at Michigan
S. 29 at Illinois
O. 6 Iowa
O. 13 Wisconsin
O. 20 at Indiana
O. 27 Ohio State
N. 3 Purdue
N. 10 at Temple
N. 17 at Michigan State

PURDUE (8-6)

West Lafayette, IN
S. 1 at Toledo
S. 8 Eastern Illinois
S. 15 Central Michigan
S. 22 at Minnesota
S. 29 Notre Dame
O. 6 Ohio State
O. 13 at Michigan
O. 20 Iowa
O. 27 Northwestern
N. 3 at Penn State
N. 10 Michigan State
N. 17 at Indiana

WISCONSIN (12-1)

Madison, WI
S. 1 Washington State
S. 8 at UNLV
S. 15 The Citadel
S. 22 Iowa
S. 29 Michigan State
O. 6 at Illinois
O. 13 at Penn State
O. 20 Northern Illinois
O. 27 Indiana
N. 3 at Ohio State
N. 10 Michigan
N. 17 at Minnesota

BIG 12

BAYLOR (4-8)

Waco, TX
S. 1 at TCU
S. 8 Rice
S. 15 Texas State
S. 22 at Buffalo
S. 29 at Texas A&M
O. 6 Colorado
O. 13 at Kansas
O. 20 Texas
O. 27 at Kansas State
N. 3 Texas Tech
N. 10 at Oklahoma
N. 17 Oklahoma State

COLORADO (2-10)

Boulder, CO
S. 1 Colorado State
S. 8 at Arizona State
S. 15 Florida State
S. 22 Miami (OH)
S. 29 Oklahoma
O. 6 at Baylor
O. 13 at Kansas State
O. 20 Kansas
O. 27 at Texas Tech
N. 3 Missouri
N. 10 at Iowa State
N. 23 Nebraska
#Denver, CO

IOWA STATE (4-8)

Ames, IA
A. 30 Kent State
S. 8 Northern Iowa
S. 15 Iowa
S. 22 at Toledo
S. 29 at Nebraska
O. 6 at Texas Tech
O. 13 Texas
O. 20 Oklahoma
O. 27 at Missouri
N. 3 Kansas State
N. 10 Colorado
N. 17 at Kansas

KANSAS (6-6)

Lawrence, KS
S. 1 Central Michigan
S. 8 SE Louisiana
S. 15 Toledo
S. 22 Florida International
O. 6 at Kansas State
O. 13 Baylor
O. 20 at Colorado
O. 27 at Texas A&M
N. 3 Nebraska
N. 10 at Oklahoma State
N. 17 Iowa State
N. 24 #Missouri
#Kansas City, MO

KANSAS STATE (7-6)

Manhattan, KS
S. 1 at Auburn
S. 8 San Jose State
S. 15 Missouri State
S. 29 at Texas
O. 6 Kansas
O. 13 Colorado
O. 20 at Oklahoma State
O. 27 Baylor
N. 3 at Iowa State
N. 10 at Nebraska
N. 17 Missouri
N. 24 at Fresno State

MISSOURI (8-5)

Columbia, MO
S. 1 #Illinois
S. 8 at Ole Miss
S. 15 Western Michigan
S. 22 Illinois State
O. 6 Nebraska
O. 13 at Oklahoma
O. 20 Texas Tech
O. 27 Iowa State
N. 3 at Colorado
N. 10 Texas A&M
N. 17 at Kansas State
N. 24 %Kansas
#St. Louis, MO
%Kansas City, MO

NEBRASKA (9-5)

Lincoln, NE
S. 1 Nevada
S. 8 at Wake Forest
S. 15 USC
S. 22 Ball State
S. 29 Iowa State
O. 6 at Missouri
O. 13 Oklahoma State
O. 20 Texas A&M
O. 27 at Texas
N. 3 at Kansas
N. 10 Kansas State
N. 23 at Colorado

OKLAHOMA (11-3)

Norman, OK
S. 1 North Texas
S. 8 Miami
S. 15 Utah State
S. 21 at Tulsa
S. 29 at Colorado
O. 6 #Texas
O. 13 Missouri
O. 20 at Iowa State
O. 27 Oklahoma State
N. 3 Texas A&M
N. 10 Baylor
N. 17 at Texas Tech
#Dallas, TX

OKLAHOMA STATE (7-6)

Stillwater, OK
S. 1 at Georgia
S. 8 Florida Atlantic
S. 14 at Troy
S. 22 Texas Tech
S. 29 Sam Houston State
O. 6 at Texas A&M
O. 13 at Nebraska
O. 20 Kansas State
O. 27 at Oklahoma
N. 3 Texas
N. 10 Kansas
N. 17 at Baylor

TEXAS (10-3)

Austin, TX
S. 1 Arkansas State
S. 8 TCU
S. 15 at UCF
S. 22 Rice
S. 29 Kansas State
O. 6 #Oklahoma
O. 13 at Iowa State
O. 20 at Baylor
O. 27 Nebraska
N. 3 at Oklahoma State
N. 10 Texas Tech
N. 23 at Texas A&M
#Dallas, TX

TEXAS A&M (9-4)

College Station, TX
S. 1 Montana State
S. 8 Fresno State
S. 15 UL Monroe
S. 20 at Miami
S. 29 Baylor
O. 6 Oklahoma State
O. 13 at Texas Tech
O. 20 at Nebraska
O. 27 Kansas
N. 3 at Oklahoma
N. 10 at Missouri
N. 23 Texas

TEXAS TECH (8-5)

Lubbock, TX
S. 3 at SMU
S. 8 UTEP
S. 15 at Rice
S. 22 at Oklahoma State
S. 29 Northwestern State
O. 6 Iowa State
O. 13 Texas A&M
O. 20 at Missouri
O. 27 Colorado
N. 3 at Baylor
N. 10 at Texas
N. 17 Oklahoma

C-USA

EAST CAROLINA (7-6)

Greenville, NC
S. 1 at Virginia Tech
S. 8 North Carolina
S. 15 Southern Miss
S. 22 at West Virginia
S. 29 at Houston
O. 6 UCF
O. 13 at UTEP
O. 20 NC State
O. 27 UAB
N. 3 at Memphis
N. 10 at Marshall
N. 24 Tulane

HOUSTON (10-4)

Houston, TX
S. 1 at Oregon
S. 15 at Tulane
S. 22 Colorado State
S. 29 East Carolina
O. 6 at Alabama
O. 13 Rice
O. 20 at UAB
O. 27 at UTEP
N. 4 SMU
N. 10 at Tulsa
N. 17 Marshall
N. 24 Texas Southern

MARSHALL (5-7)

Huntington, WV
S. 1 at Miami
S. 8 West Virginia
S. 15 New Hampshire
S. 22 at Cincinnati
O. 2 at Memphis
O. 13 at Tulsa
O. 21 Southern Miss
O. 27 Rice
N. 3 at UCF
N. 10 East Carolina
N. 17 at Houston
N. 24 UAB

MEMPHIS (2-10)

Memphis, TN
S. 1 Ole Miss
S. 8 at Arkansas State
S. 15 Nicholls State
S. 22 at UCF
O. 2 Marshall
O. 13 Middle Tennessee
O. 20 at Rice
O. 27 at Tulane
N. 3 East Carolina
N. 10 at Southern Miss
N. 17 UAB
N. 24 SMU

RICE (7-6)

Houston, TX
S. 1 Nicholls State
S. 8 at Baylor
S. 15 Texas Tech
S. 22 at Texas
O. 3 at Southern Miss
O. 13 at Houston
O. 20 Memphis
O. 27 at Marshall
N. 3 UTEP
N. 10 at SMU
N. 17 Tulane
N. 24 Tulsa

SMU (6-6)

Dallas, TX
S. 3 Texas Tech
S. 8 North Texas
S. 15 at Arkansas State
S. 22 at TCU
S. 29 UTEP
O. 13 at Southern Miss
O. 20 Tulane
O. 27 at Tulsa
N. 4 at Houston
N. 10 Rice
N. 17 UCF
N. 24 at Memphis

SOUTHERN MISS (9-5)

Hattiesburg, MS
S. 1 Tennessee-Martin
S. 8 at Tennessee
S. 15 at East Carolina
S. 27 at Boise State
O. 3 Rice
O. 13 SMU
O. 21 at Marshall
O. 28 UCF
N. 3 at UAB
N. 10 Memphis
N. 17 at UTEP
N. 24 Arkansas State

TULANE (4-8)

New Orleans, LA
S. 8 Mississippi State
S. 15 Houston
S. 22 SE Louisiana
S. 29 LSU
O. 6 at Army
O. 13 at UAB
O. 20 at SMU
O. 27 Memphis
N. 3 Tulsa
N. 10 UTEP
N. 17 at Rice
N. 24 at East Carolina

TULSA (8-5)

Tulsa, OK
A. 30 at UL Monroe
S. 15 BYU
S. 21 Oklahoma
S. 29 UAB
O. 6 at UTEP
O. 13 Marshall
O. 20 at UCF
O. 27 SMU
N. 3 at Tulane
N. 10 Houston
N. 17 at Army
N. 24 at Rice

UAB (3-9)

Birmingham, AL
S. 1 at Michigan State
S. 8 at Florida State
S. 15 Alcorn State
S. 29 at Tulsa
O. 6 at Mississippi State
O. 13 Tulane
O. 20 Houston
O. 27 at East Carolina
N. 3 Southern Miss
N. 10 UCF
N. 17 at Memphis
N. 24 at Marshall

UCF (4-8)

Orlando, FL
S. 1 at NC State
S. 15 Texas
S. 22 Memphis
S. 29 UL Lafayette
O. 6 at East Carolina
O. 13 at USF
O. 20 Tulsa
O. 28 at Southern Miss
N. 3 Marshall
N. 10 at UAB
N. 17 at SMU
N. 24 UTEP

UTEP (5-7)

El Paso, TX
S. 1 New Mexico
S. 8 at Texas Tech
S. 15 at New Mexico State
S. 22 Texas Southern
S. 29 at SMU
O. 6 Tulsa
O. 13 East Carolina
O. 27 Houston
N. 3 at Rice
N. 10 at Tulane
N. 17 Southern Miss
N. 24 at UCF

MAC

AKRON (5-7)

Akron, OH
S. 1 #Army
S. 8 at Ohio State
S. 15 at Indiana
S. 22 Kent State
S. 29 at Connecticut
O. 6 at Western Michigan
O. 13 Temple
O. 27 at Buffalo
N. 2 at Bowling Green
N. 7 Ohio
N. 14 at Miami (OH)
N. 23 Central Michigan
#Cleveland, OH

BALL STATE (5-7)

Muncie, IN
A. 30 Miami (OH)
S. 8 at Eastern Michigan
S. 15 at Navy
S. 22 at Nebraska
S. 29 Buffalo
O. 6 Central Michigan
O. 13 Western Kentucky
O. 20 at Western Michigan
O. 27 at Illinois
N. 3 at Indiana
N. 13 Toledo
N. 24 at Northern Illinois

BOWLING GREEN (4-8)

Bowling Green, OH
S. 1 at Minnesota
S. 8 at Michigan State
S. 22 Temple
S. 29 Western Kentucky
O. 6 at Boston College
O. 13 at Miami (OH)
O. 20 at Kent State
O. 27 Ohio
N. 2 Akron
N. 9 at Eastern Michigan
N. 17 at Buffalo
N. 23 Toledo

BUFFALO (2-10)

Buffalo, NY
A. 30 at Rutgers
S. 8 at Temple
S. 15 at Penn State
S. 22 Baylor
S. 29 at Ball State
O. 6 Ohio
O. 13 Toledo
O. 20 at Syracuse
N. 2 Akron
N. 3 at Miami (OH)
N. 17 Bowling Green
N. 24 at Kent State

CENTRAL MICHIGAN (10-4)

Mt. Pleasant, MI
S. 1 at Kansas
S. 8 Toledo
S. 15 at Purdue
S. 22 North Dakota State
S. 29 Northern Illinois
O. 6 at Ball State
O. 13 Army
O. 20 at Clemson
O. 27 at Kent State
N. 6 at Western Michigan
N. 17 Eastern Michigan
N. 23 at Akron

EASTERN MICHIGAN (1-11)

Ypsilanti, MI
S. 1 at Pittsburgh
S. 8 Ball State
S. 15 at Northern Illinois
S. 22 Howard
S. 29 at Vanderbilt
O. 6 at Michigan
O. 13 at Ohio
O. 20 #Northwestern
O. 27 Western Michigan
N. 3 at Toledo
N. 9 Bowling Green
N. 17 at Central Michigan
#Detroit, MI

KENT STATE (6-6)

Kent, OH
A. 30 at Iowa State
S. 8 at Kentucky
S. 15 Delaware State
S. 22 at Akron
S. 29 at Ohio
O. 6 Miami (OH)
O. 13 at Ohio State
O. 20 Bowling Green
O. 27 Central Michigan
N. 10 at Northern Illinois
N. 17 at Temple
N. 24 Buffalo

MIAMI (OHIO) (2-10)

Oxford, OH
A. 30 at Ball State
S. 8 at Minnesota
S. 15 Cincinnati
S. 22 at Colorado
S. 29 Syracuse
O. 6 at Kent State
O. 13 Bowling Green
O. 20 at Temple
O. 27 at Vanderbilt
N. 3 Buffalo
N. 14 Akron
N. 24 at Ohio

NORTHERN ILLINOIS (7-6)

Dekalb, IL
S. 1 #Iowa
S. 8 Southern Illinois
S. 15 Eastern Michigan
S. 22 at Idaho
S. 29 at Central Michigan
O. 6 at Temple
O. 13 Western Michigan
O. 20 at Wisconsin
O. 27 at Toledo
N. 10 Kent State
N. 17 at Navy
N. 24 Ball State
#Chicago, IL

OHIO (9-5)

Athens, OH
S. 1 Gardner-Webb
S. 8 at UL Lafayette
S. 15 at Virginia Tech
S. 22 Wyoming
S. 29 Kent State
O. 6 at Buffalo
O. 13 Eastern Michigan
O. 20 at Toledo
O. 27 at Bowling Green
N. 2 Temple
N. 7 at Akron
N. 24 Miami (OH)

TEMPLE (1-11)

Philadelphia, PA
A. 31 Navy
S. 8 Buffalo
S. 15 at Connecticut
S. 22 at Bowling Green
S. 29 at Army
O. 6 Northern Illinois
O. 13 at Akron
O. 20 Miami (OH)
N. 2 at Ohio
N. 10 Penn State
N. 17 Kent State
N. 24 at Western Michigan

TOLEDO (5-7)

Toledo, OH
S. 1 Purdue
S. 8 at Central Michigan
S. 15 at Kansas
S. 22 Iowa State
S. 29 Western Michigan
O. 6 Liberty
O. 13 at Buffalo
O. 20 Ohio
O. 27 Northern Illinois
N. 3 Eastern Michigan
N. 13 at Ball State
N. 23 at Bowling Green

WESTERN MICHIGAN (8-5)

Kalamazoo, MI
S. 1 at West Virginia
S. 8 Indiana
S. 15 at Missouri
S. 22 Central Conn. State
S. 29 at Toledo
O. 6 Akron
O. 13 at Northern Illinois
O. 20 Ball State
O. 27 at Eastern Michigan
N. 6 Central Michigan
N. 17 at Iowa
N. 24 Temple

MOUNTAIN WEST

AIR FORCE (4-8)

Colorado Springs, CO
S. 1 South Carolina State
S. 8 at Utah
S. 13 TCU
S. 22 at BYU
S. 29 at Navy
O. 6 UNLV
O. 13 at Colorado State
O. 20 Wyoming
O. 25 at New Mexico
N. 3 Army
N. 10 at Notre Dame
N. 17 San Diego State

BYU (11-2)

Provo, UT
S. 1 Arizona
S. 8 at UCLA
S. 15 at Tulsa
S. 22 Air Force
S. 29 at New Mexico
O. 13 at UNLV
O. 20 Eastern Washington
O. 27 at San Diego State
N. 3 Colorado State
N. 8 TCU
N. 17 at Wyoming
N. 24 Utah

COLORADO STATE (4-8)

Fort Collins, CO
S. 1 #Colorado
S. 8 California
S. 22 at Houston
S. 29 at TCU
O. 6 San Diego State
O. 13 Air Force
O. 20 at UNLV
O. 27 Utah
N. 3 at BYU
N. 10 at New Mexico
N. 17 Georgia Southern
N. 23 Wyoming
#Denver, CO

NEW MEXICO (6-7)

Albuquerque, NM
S. 1 at UTEP
S. 8 New Mexico State
S. 15 at Arizona
S. 22 Sacramento State
S. 29 BYU
O. 13 at Wyoming
O. 20 at San Diego State
O. 25 Air Force
N. 3 TCU
N. 10 Colorado State
N. 17 at Utah
N. 24 UNLV

SAN DIEGO STATE (3-9)

San Diego, CA
S. 8 #Washington State
S. 15 at Arizona State
S. 22 Portland State
S. 29 Cincinnati
O. 6 at Colorado State
O. 13 at Utah
O. 20 New Mexico
O. 27 BYU
N. 3 Wyoming
N. 10 at UNLV
N. 17 at Air Force
N. 24 TCU
#Seattle, WA

TCU (11-2)

Fort Worth, TX
S. 1 Baylor
S. 8 at Texas
S. 13 at Air Force
S. 22 SMU
S. 29 Colorado State
O. 6 at Wyoming
O. 13 at Stanford
O. 18 Utah
N. 3 New Mexico
N. 8 at BYU
N. 17 UNLV
N. 24 at San Diego State

UNLV (2-10)

Las Vegas, NV
A. 30 at Utah State
S. 8 Wisconsin
S. 15 Hawaii
S. 22 Utah
S. 29 at Nevada
O. 6 at Air Force
O. 13 BYU
O. 20 Colorado State
O. 27 at Wyoming
N. 10 San Diego State
N. 17 at TCU
N. 24 at New Mexico

UTAH (8-5)

Salt Lake City, UT
A. 30 at Oregon State
S. 8 Air Force
S. 15 UCLA
S. 22 at UNLV
S. 29 Utah State
O. 5 at Louisville
O. 13 San Diego State
O. 18 at TCU
O. 27 at Colorado State
N. 10 Wyoming
N. 17 New Mexico
N. 24 at BYU

WYOMING (6-6)

Laramie, WY
S. 1 Virginia
S. 8 Utah State
S. 15 at Boise State
S. 22 at Ohio
O. 6 TCU
O. 13 New Mexico
O. 20 at Air Force
O. 27 UNLV
N. 3 at San Diego State
N. 10 at Utah
N. 17 BYU
N. 23 at Colorado State

PAC-10

ARIZONA (6-6)

Tucson, AZ
S. 1 at BYU
S. 8 Northern Arizona
S. 15 New Mexico
S. 22 at California
S. 29 Washington State
O. 6 at Oregon State
O. 13 at USC
O. 20 Stanford
O. 27 at Washington
N. 3 UCLA
N. 15 Oregon
D. 1 at Arizona State

ARIZONA STATE (7-6)

Tempe, AZ
S. 1 San Jose State
S. 8 Colorado
S. 15 San Diego State
S. 22 Oregon State
S. 29 at Stanford
O. 6 at Washington State
O. 13 Washington
O. 27 California
N. 3 at Oregon
N. 10 at UCLA
N. 22 USC
D. 1 Arizona

CALIFORNIA (10-3)

Berkeley, CA
S. 1 Tennessee
S. 8 at Colorado State
S. 15 Louisiana Tech
S. 22 Arizona
S. 29 at Oregon
O. 13 Oregon State
O. 20 at UCLA
O. 27 at Arizona State
N. 3 Washington State
N. 10 USC
N. 17 at Washington
D. 1 at Stanford

OREGON (7-6)

Eugene, OR
S. 1 Houston
S. 8 at Michigan
S. 15 Fresno State
S. 22 at Stanford
S. 29 California
O. 13 Washington State
O. 20 at Washington
O. 27 USC
N. 3 Arizona State
N. 15 at Arizona
N. 24 at UCLA
D. 1 Oregon State

OREGON STATE (10-4)

Corvallis, OR
A. 30 Utah
S. 6 at Cincinnati
S. 15 Idaho State
S. 22 at Arizona State
S. 29 UCLA
O. 6 Arizona
O. 13 at California
O. 27 Stanford
N. 3 at USC
N. 10 Washington
N. 17 at Washington State
D. 1 at Oregon

STANFORD (11-1)

Stanford, CA
S. 1 UCLA
S. 15 San Jose State
S. 22 Oregon
S. 29 Arizona State
O. 6 at USC
O. 13 TCU
O. 20 at Arizona
O. 27 at Oregon State
N. 3 Washington
N. 10 at Washington State
N. 24 Notre Dame
D. 1 California

UCLA (7-6)

Los Angeles, CA
S. 1 at Stanford
S. 8 BYU
S. 15 at Utah
S. 22 Washington
S. 29 at Oregon State
O. 6 Notre Dame
O. 20 California
O. 27 at Washington State
N. 3 at Arizona
N. 10 Arizona State
N. 24 Oregon
D. 1 at USC

USC (11-2)

Los Angeles, CA
S. 1 Idaho
S. 15 at Nebraska
S. 22 Washington State
S. 29 at Washington
O. 6 Stanford
O. 13 Arizona
O. 20 at Notre Dame
O. 27 at Oregon
N. 3 Oregon State
N. 10 at California
N. 22 at Arizona State
D. 1 UCLA

WASHINGTON (5-7)

Seattle, WA
A. 31 at Syracuse
S. 8 Boise State
S. 15 Ohio State
S. 22 at UCLA
S. 29 USC
O. 13 at Arizona State
O. 20 Oregon
O. 27 Arizona
N. 3 at Stanford
N. 10 at Oregon State
N. 17 California
N. 24 Washington State
D. 1 at Hawaii

WASHINGTON STATE (6-6)

Pullman, WA
S. 1 at Wisconsin
S. 8 #San Diego State
S. 15 Idaho
S. 22 at USC
S. 29 at Arizona
O. 6 Arizona State
O. 13 at Oregon
O. 27 UCLA
N. 3 at California
N. 10 Stanford
N. 17 Oregon State
N. 24 at Washington
#Seattle, WA

SEC

ALABAMA (8-5)

Tuscaloosa, AL
S. 1 Western Carolina
S. 8 at Vanderbilt
S. 15 Arkansas
S. 22 Georgia
S. 29 #Florida State
O. 6 Houston
O. 13 at Ole Miss
O. 20 Tennessee
N. 3 LSU
N. 10 at Mississippi State
N. 17 UL Monroe
N. 24 at Auburn
#Jacksonville, FL

ARKANSAS (10-4)

Fayetteville, AR
S. 1 Troy
S. 15 at Alabama
S. 22 Kentucky
S. 29 North Texas
O. 6 #Chattanooga
O. 13 Auburn
O. 20 at Ole Miss
O. 27 Florida International
N. 3 South Carolina
N. 10 at Tennessee
N. 17 #Mississippi State
N. 23 at LSU
#Little Rock, AR

AUBURN (11-2)

Auburn, AL
S. 1 Kansas State
S. 8 South Florida
S. 15 Mississippi State
S. 22 New Mexico State
S. 29 at Florida
O. 6 Vanderbilt
O. 13 at Arkansas
O. 20 at LSU
O. 27 Ole Miss
N. 3 Tennessee Tech
N. 10 at Georgia
N. 24 Alabama

FLORIDA (13-1)

Gainesville, FL
S. 1 Western Kentucky
S. 8 Troy
S. 15 Tennessee
S. 22 at Ole Miss
S. 29 Auburn
O. 6 at LSU
O. 20 at Kentucky
O. 27 #Georgia
N. 3 Vanderbilt
N. 10 at South Carolina
N. 17 Florida Atlantic
N. 24 Florida State
#Jacksonville, FL

GEORGIA (9-4)

Athens, GA
S. 1 Oklahoma State
S. 8 South Carolina
S. 15 Western Carolina
S. 22 at Alabama
S. 29 Ole Miss
O. 6 at Tennessee
O. 13 at Vanderbilt
O. 27 #Florida
N. 3 Troy
N. 10 Auburn
N. 17 Kentucky
N. 24 at Georgia Tech
#Jacksonville, FL

KENTUCKY (8-5)

Lexington, KY
S. 1 Eastern Kentucky
S. 8 Kent State
S. 15 Louisville
S. 22 at Arkansas
S. 29 Florida Atlantic
O. 4 at South Carolina
O. 13 LSU
O. 20 Florida
O. 27 Mississippi State
N. 10 at Vanderbilt
N. 17 at Georgia
N. 24 Tennessee

LSU (11-2)

Baton Rouge, LA
A. 30 at Mississippi State
S. 8 Virginia Tech
S. 15 Middle Tennessee
S. 22 South Carolina
S. 29 at Tulane
O. 6 Florida
O. 13 at Kentucky
O. 20 Auburn
N. 3 at Alabama
N. 10 Louisiana Tech
N. 17 at Ole Miss
N. 23 Arkansas

MISSISSIPPI STATE (3-9)

Starkville, MS
A. 30 LSU
S. 8 at Tulane
S. 15 at Auburn
S. 22 Jacksonville State
S. 29 at South Carolina
O. 6 UAB
O. 13 Tennessee
O. 20 at West Virginia
O. 27 at Kentucky
N. 10 Alabama
N. 17 #at Arkansas
N. 23 Ole Miss
#Little Rock, AR

OLE MISS (4-8)

Oxford, MS
S. 1 at Memphis
S. 8 Missouri
S. 15 at Vanderbilt
S. 22 Florida
S. 29 at Georgia
O. 6 Louisiana Tech
O. 13 Alabama
O. 20 Arkansas
O. 27 at Auburn
N. 3 Northwestern State
N. 17 LSU
N. 23 at Mississippi State

SOUTH CAROLINA (8-5)

Columbia, SC
S. 1 UL Lafayette
S. 8 at Georgia
S. 15 South Carolina State
S. 22 at LSU
S. 29 Mississippi State
O. 4 Kentucky
O. 13 at North Carolina
O. 20 Vanderbilt
O. 27 at Tennessee
N. 3 at Arkansas
N. 10 Florida
N. 24 Clemson

TENNESSEE (9-4)

Knoxville, TN
S. 1 at California
S. 8 Southern Miss
S. 15 at Florida
S. 22 Arkansas State
O. 6 Georgia
O. 13 at Mississippi State
O. 20 at Alabama
O. 27 South Carolina
N. 3 UL Lafayette
N. 10 Arkansas
N. 17 Vanderbilt
N. 24 at Kentucky

VANDERBILT (4-8)

Nashville, TN
S. 1 Richmond
S. 8 Alabama
S. 15 Ole Miss
S. 29 Eastern Michigan
O. 6 at Auburn
O. 13 Georgia
O. 20 at South Carolina
O. 27 Miami (OH)
N. 3 at Florida
N. 10 Kentucky
N. 17 at Tennessee
N. 24 Wake Forest

SUNBELT

ARKANSAS STATE (6-6)

Jonesboro, AR
S. 1 at Texas
S. 8 Memphis
S. 15 SMU
S. 22 at Tennessee
O. 6 at UL Monroe
O. 13 UL Lafayette
O. 20 at Middle Tennessee
O. 27 Troy
N. 3 Florida International
N. 10 at Florida Atlantic
N. 15 North Texas
N. 24 at Southern Miss

FLORIDA ATLANTIC (5-7)

Boca Raton, FL
S. 1 Middle Tennessee
S. 8 at Oklahoma State
S. 15 #Minnesota
S. 22 at North Texas
S. 29 at Kentucky
O. 6 South Florida
O. 20 at UL Lafayette
O. 27 UL Monroe
N. 10 Arkansas State
N. 17 at Florida
N. 24 at Florida International
D. 1 at Troy
#Miami, FL

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL (0-12)

Miami, FL
S. 1 at Penn State
S. 8 Maryland
S. 15 at Miami
S. 22 at Kansas
S. 29 at Middle Tennessee
O. 6 Troy
O. 20 at UL Monroe
O. 27 at Arkansas
N. 3 at Arkansas State
N. 17 UL Lafayette
N. 24 Florida Atlantic
D. 1 North Texas

UL LAFAYETTE (6-6)

Lafayette, LA
S. 1 at South Carolina
S. 8 Ohio
S. 15 McNeese State
S. 22 Troy
S. 29 at UCF
O. 6 North Texas
O. 13 at Arkansas State
O. 20 Florida Atlantic
N. 3 at Tennessee
N. 10 at Middle Tennessee
N. 17 at Florida International
N. 24 UL Monroe

UL MONROE (4-8)

Monroe, LA
A. 30 Tulsa
S. 8 at Clemson
S. 15 at Texas A&M
S. 29 at Troy
O. 6 Arkansas State
O. 13 at North Texas
O. 20 Florida International
O. 27 at Florida Atlantic
N. 3 Middle Tennessee
N. 10 Grambling State
N. 17 at Alabama
N. 24 at UL Lafayette

MIDDLE TENNESSEE (7-6)

Murfreesboro, TN
S. 1 at Florida Atlantic
S. 6 at Louisville
S. 15 at LSU
S. 20 Western Kentucky
S. 29 Florida International
O. 6 Virginia
O. 13 at Memphis
O. 20 Arkansas State
O. 27 at North Texas
N. 3 at UL Monroe
N. 10 UL Lafayette
N. 20 at Troy

NORTH TEXAS (3-9)

Denton, TX
S. 1 at Oklahoma
S. 8 at SMU
S. 22 Florida Atlantic
S. 29 at Arkansas
O. 6 at UL Lafayette
O. 13 UL Monroe
O. 20 at Troy
O. 27 Middle Tennessee
N. 10 Navy
N. 15 at Arkansas State
N. 24 Western Kentucky
D. 1 at Florida International

TROY (8-5)

Troy, AL
S. 1 at Arkansas
S. 8 at Florida
S. 14 Oklahoma State
S. 22 at UL Lafayette
S. 29 UL Monroe
O. 6 at Florida International
O. 20 North Texas
O. 27 at Arkansas State
N. 3 at Georgia
N. 10 at Western Kentucky
N. 20 Middle Tennessee
D. 1 Florida Atlantic

WAC

BOISE STATE (13-0)

Boise, ID
A. 30 Weber State
S. 8 at Washington
S. 15 Wyoming
S. 27 Southern Miss
O. 7 New Mexico State
O. 14 Nevada
O. 20 at Louisiana Tech
O. 26 at Fresno State
N. 3 San Jose State
N. 10 at Utah State
N. 17 Idaho
N. 23 at Hawaii

FRESNO STATE (4-8)

Fresno, CA
S. 1 Sacramento State
S. 8 at Texas A&M
S. 15 at Oregon
S. 29 Louisiana Tech
O. 6 at Nevada
O. 13 at Idaho
O. 20 San Jose State
O. 26 Boise State
N. 3 Utah State
N. 10 at Hawaii
N. 24 Kansas State
D. 1 at New Mexico State

HAWAII (11-3)

Honolulu, HI
S. 1 Northern Colorado
S. 8 at Louisiana Tech
S. 15 at UNLV
S. 22 Charleston Southern
S. 29 at Idaho
O. 6 Utah State
O. 12 at San Jose State
O. 27 New Mexico State
N. 10 Fresno State
N. 17 at Nevada
N. 23 Boise State
D. 1 Washington

IDAHO (4-8)

Moscow, ID
S. 1 at USC
S. 8 Cal Poly
S. 15 at Washington State
S. 22 Northern Illinois
S. 29 Hawaii
O. 6 at San Jose State
O. 13 Fresno State
O. 20 at New Mexico State
O. 27 at Nevada
N. 3 Louisiana Tech
N. 17 at Boise State
N. 24 Utah State

LOUISIANA TECH (3-10)

Ruston, LA
S. 1 Central Arkansas
S. 8 Hawaii
S. 15 at California
S. 29 at Fresno State
O. 6 at Ole Miss
O. 13 New Mexico State
O. 20 Boise State
O. 27 at Utah State
N. 3 at Idaho
N. 10 at LSU
N. 17 San Jose State
D. 1 at Nevada

NEVADA (8-5)

Reno, NV
S. 1 at Nebraska
S. 8 at Northwestern
S. 29 UNLV
O. 6 Fresno State
O. 14 at Boise State
O. 20 at Utah State
O. 27 Idaho
N. 2 at New Mexico State
N. 17 Hawaii
N. 24 at San Jose State
D. 1 Louisiana Tech

NEW MEXICO STATE (4-8)

Las Cruces, NM
A. 30 SE Louisiana
S. 8 at New Mexico
S. 15 UTEP
S. 22 at Auburn
S. 29 Arkansas-Pine Bluff
O. 7 at Boise State
O. 13 at Louisiana Tech
O. 20 Idaho
O. 27 at Hawaii
N. 2 Nevada
N. 10 at San Jose State
N. 17 Utah State
D. 1 Fresno State

SAN JOSE STATE (9-4)

San Jose, CA
S. 1 at Arizona State
S. 8 at Kansas State
S. 15 at Stanford
S. 22 at Utah State
S. 29 UC Davis
O. 6 Idaho
O. 12 Hawaii
O. 20 at Fresno State
N. 3 at Boise State
N. 10 New Mexico State
N. 17 at Louisiana Tech
N. 24 Nevada

UTAH STATE (1-11)

Logan, UT
A. 30 UNLV
S. 8 at Wyoming
S. 15 at Oklahoma
S. 22 San Jose State
S. 29 at Utah
O. 6 at Hawaii
O. 20 Nevada
O. 27 Louisiana Tech
N. 3 at Fresno State
N. 10 Boise State
N. 17 at New Mexico State
N. 24 at Idaho

I-A INDEPENDENTS

ARMY (3-9)

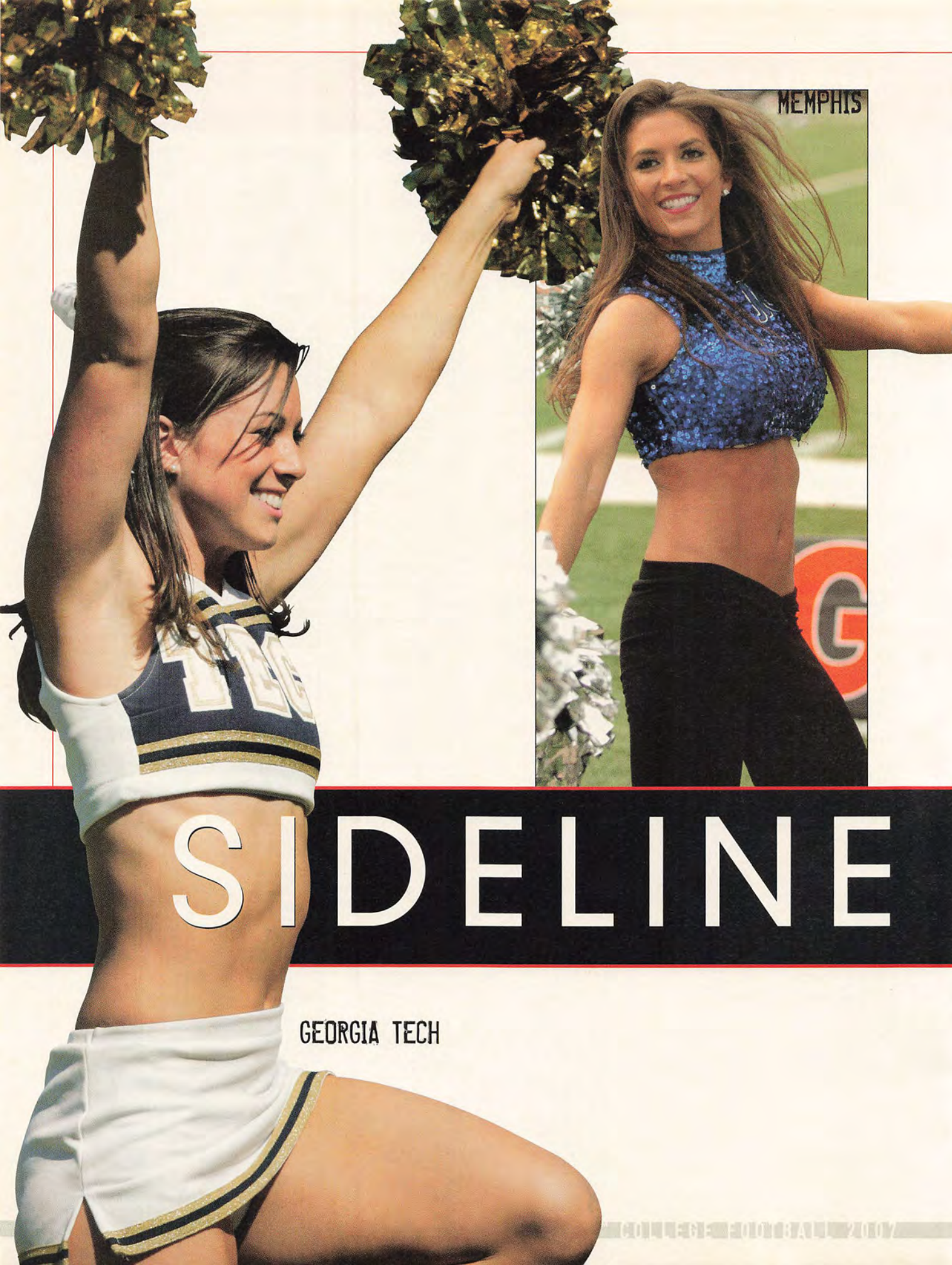
West Point, NY
S. 1 #at Akron
S. 8 Rhode Island
S. 15 at Wake Forest
S. 22 at Boston College
S. 29 Temple
O. 6 Tulane
O. 13 at Central Michigan
O. 20 at Georgia Tech
N. 3 at Air Force
N. 9 Rutgers
N. 17 Tulsa
Dec. 1 %Navy
#Cleveland, OH
#Baltimore, MD

NAVY (9-4)

Annapolis, MD
A. 31 at Temple
S. 7 at Rutgers
S. 15 Ball State
S. 22 Duke
S. 29 Air Force
O. 13 at Pittsburgh
O. 20 Wake Forest
O. 27 Delaware
N. 3 at Notre Dame
N. 10 at North Texas
N. 17 Northern Illinois
Dec. 1 #Army
#Baltimore, MD

NOTRE DAME (10-3)

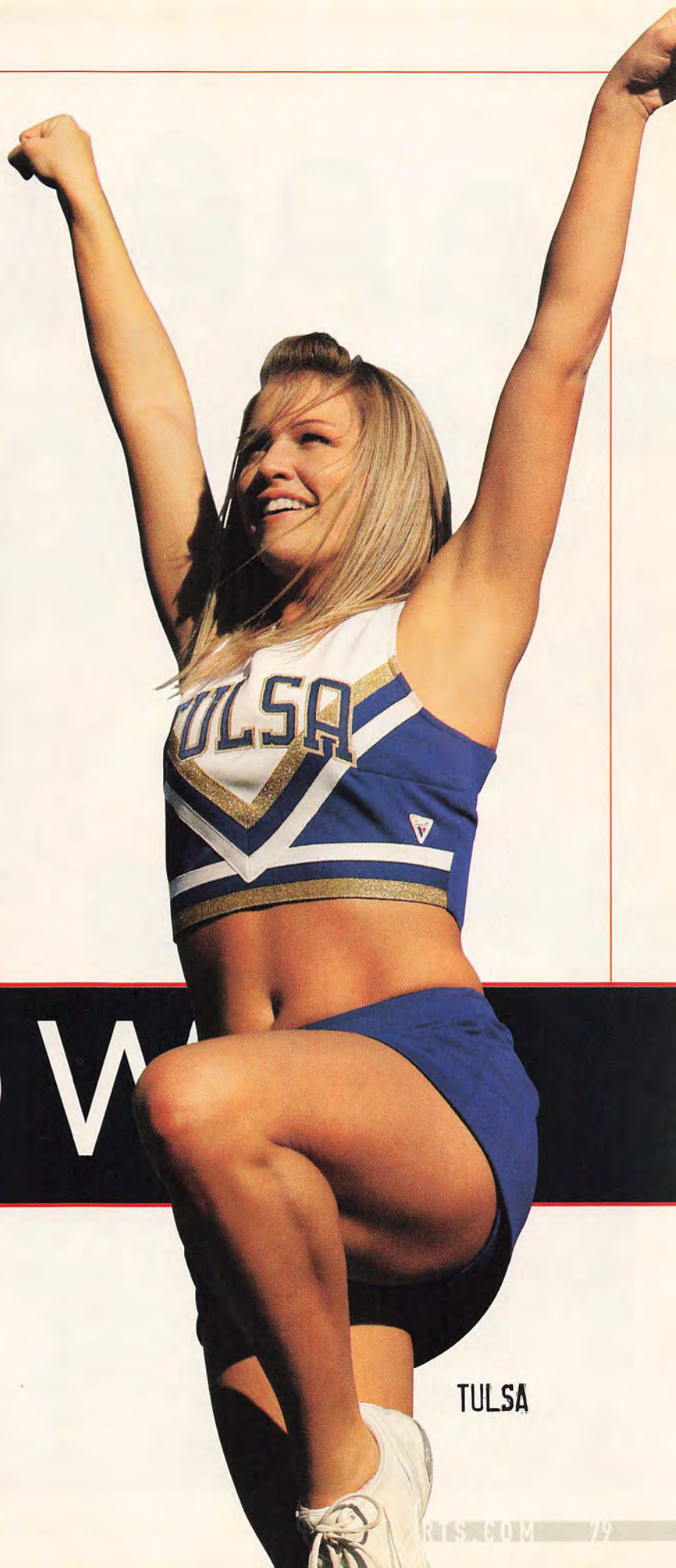
South Bend, IN
S. 1 Georgia Tech
S. 8 at Penn State
S. 15 at Michigan
S. 22 Michigan State
S. 29 at Purdue
O. 6 at UCLA
O. 13 Boston College
O. 20 USC
N. 3 Navy
N. 10 Air Force
N. 17 Duke
N. 24 at Stanford



MEMPHIS

SIDELINE

GEORGIA TECH



SHOW

TULSA

Georgia Tech: Ric Fogel
Memphis: Tim Clark/Athlon Sports
LSU: Chris Covatta
Tulsa: Larry Smith



Miami: Mike DeHoog
Texas: Layne Murdoch
USC: Peter Brouillet

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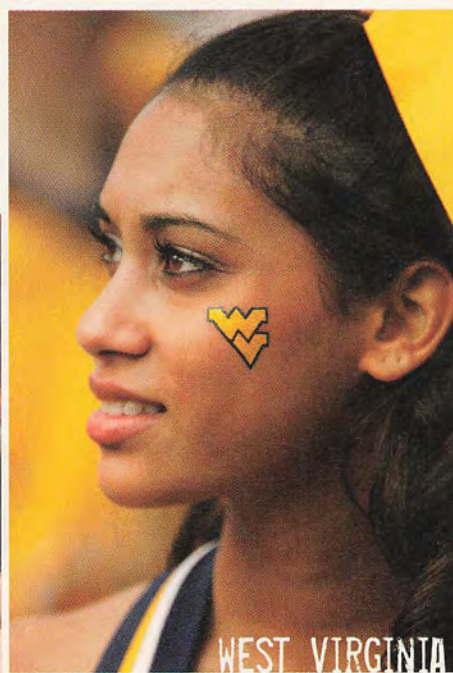
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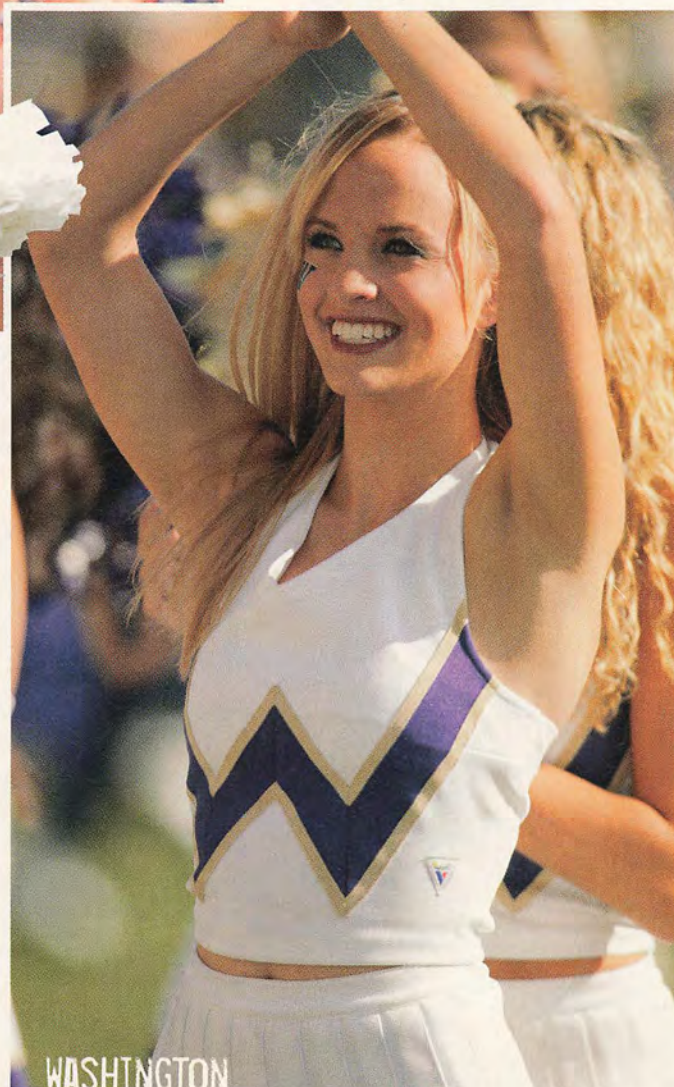
FLORIDA



WEST VIRGINIA



ALABAMA



WASHINGTON

Florida: Courtland Richards West Virginia: Larry Smith
 Alabama: Ric Fogel Washington: Ric Fogel



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TAILGATING & GAMEDAY TRADITIONS

CLEMSON Running Down the Hill

First, a quick story about another Clemson tradition — how Memorial Stadium became known as Death Valley.

Lonnie McMillian was a coach at Presbyterian, a school that often played Clemson at Memorial Stadium. Played, but rarely won. And rarely scored. Presbyterian's series record was 3-32-4, and 24 of those losses were shutouts. That "success" led McMillian to comment to the media one day in 1948 that he was going to play Clemson in Death Valley. A few years later Clemson coach Frank Howard used the nickname, and it stuck.

How that relates to one of the country's best game day traditions — No. 2 on Rivals.com's Top 10 — is that the rock at the top of the hill by the stadium came from Death Valley, California. In the mid-1960s Clemson alum S.C. Jones carried the white flint rock back from a trip to California's Death Valley and presented it to Coach Howard. The rock sat on the floor in Howard's office for years until one day the coach cleaned his office and told someone to get rid of the rock; he didn't care how.

The rock was not discarded, but rather mounted on a pedestal and placed on top of the hill from which the Tigers enter the stadium. That was Sept. 24, 1966, and Clemson won. The players started rubbing the rock prior to running down the hill at a game played 364 days later, and Clemson won. It was that day Coach Howard told his players: "If you're going to give me 110 percent, you can rub that rock. If you're not, keep your filthy hands off it." A tradition was born.

Coach Hootie Ingram succeeded Howard and decided his team would make its stadium entrance from the locker room, eliminating the rock-rubbing, hill-running entrance. From 1970 through the first four games of 1972 the team entered this new way and went 6-9. The team had had enough and insisted on entering from the hill again for the fifth game of the 1972 season. Clemson beat archival South Carolina 7-6 on a stopped two-point conversion. They've rubbed the rock and run down the hill ever since.



TEXAS Big Bertha

The Longhorn Band claims Big Bertha is the largest drum in the world. (There are a couple of other drums that claim that, too, however.) It's eight feet in diameter, more than three and a half feet deep, and stands 10 feet tall on its cart. The band wheels the 500-pound instrument — dubbed the "Sweetheart of the Longhorn Band" — onto the field for its halftime show and for other performances.

The drum also has what has to be one of the most interesting histories of any instrument anywhere.

It was commissioned in 1922 by the University of Chicago to foster team spirit. But when Chicago shuttered its football program it discarded the drum — sticking it under the stadium. It sat there for decades and was contaminated by atomic bomb research conducted at the stadium in the 1940s.

In 1955 Col. D. Harold Byrd decided that Texas should have the largest drum in the world (he was a former band member and proud of his alma mater) so he bought the drum from the University of Chicago. The price: \$1.

After he had it decontaminated and restored, Byrd donated Big Bertha to the Longhorn Band.

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WISCONSIN The Fifth Quarter

Most stadiums clear out after the final whistle. Not Camp Randall. As many as 30,000 fans hang around for the Fifth Quarter. It all began in the late 1970s when the Badger Band created its unique postgame show.

In addition to a review of the band's performances from its pregame show, they began performing arrangements that included the fans (be prepared to sing and dance along with "Beer Barrel Polka," the "Chicken Dance," and "Space Badgers," among others), playing while lying on the ground, or standing on their heads — basically doing whatever they wanted. The fans loved it, the media started calling it the Fifth Quarter, and now it's a Badger tradition.

IOWA Pink Locker Room

Okay, you're not going to see this Iowa tradition unless you're playing the Hawkeyes — literally. But it may have an effect on the outcome of the game.

Famed Iowa coach Hayden Fry (1979–1998) majored in psychology when he was at Baylor University. He may have traded in the couch for the shoulder pads, but his interest in how the mind works never went away.

One psychological theory he remembered from his studies was the effect of color on behavior. Pink, the theory goes, suppresses aggressive and hostile behavior, encouraging a calmer attitude. So, Fry had the visitor's locker rooms painted and decorated in pink. Even the lockers themselves and the urinals are pink. It may have worked: Fry retired from Iowa with a record of 143–89–6 (77–38–3 at home) and three Big Ten titles.

The pink locker rooms remained after Fry's tenure but faced protests in 2005 from faculty and students who said they were demeaning to women and homosexuals. They demanded the pink be replaced. The protest failed, and visiting players still use pink lockers and urinals at Kinnick Stadium.



RUTGERS The First Game Statue

On Nov. 6, 1869, Rutgers played Princeton in what is considered the first college football game. While it didn't look anything like what we think of football today — it looked more like rugby, and there were 25 men on each team — it was the genesis of American football.

There's a First Game statue depicting a player from that game at Rutgers Stadium, and before each home game, the Rutgers football team walks along Scarlet Walk and touches the statue on the way to the game to respect tradition and energize them for the day's game.

AUBURN The Tiger Walk

We know scores of schools have a walk of some sort, but by all accounts they're copying Auburn.

The Tiger Walk began in the early 1960s when Auburn players would walk to the stadium from Sewell Hall. Thousands of fans would line Donahue Drive to cheer them on. Since then the crowds have gotten bigger (20,000 lined the streets before a 1989 Alabama game), and the tradition has even begun to spread to some road games.

OREGON The Oregon Harley

For about a decade the Ducks have taken the field behind a FatBoy.

No, it's not a lineman, it's a 1996 Harley-Davidson FatBoy decorated Oregon colors in a color-changing paint that matches the helmet Doug Koke wears (he's the guy who currently drives the motorcycle).

This UO tradition as been called one of college football's best and begins when Koke escorts the team buses to Autzen Stadium. Then he meets his family for some tailgating, which is when fans can take pictures with him and the motorcycle. Then it's off to the tunnel to rev up the engine and lead the team onto the field, bringing the crowd to its feet in a frenzy that Koke described to a reporter simply as "sensory overload."

WEST VIRGINIA "Take Me Home, Country Roads"

"Take Me Home, Country Roads" was a hit for John Denver in the 1970s, and in 1980 Denver helped dedicate Mountaineer Field at Milan Puskar Stadium. During the event he led the crowd in a sing-along of the song.

They must have liked it. Now, after WVU football victories, it's tradition for fans to stay in the stands and sing the tune along with the football team.



Tailgating recipes and traditions from Stephen Linn and excerpted from his new books, the FOX Sports Tailgating Handbook and The Ultimate Tailgater conference handbooks for the SEC, ACC, Big Ten, Big 12, and Pac-10 (Globe Pequot). Stephen is also the host of The Ultimate Tailgater shows and vice president of the American Tailgaters Association. For more tailgating tips, recipes, videos and podcasts visit theultimatetailgater.com.



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Rutgers: Rutgers SID; Oregon: Oregon SID



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TAILGATING RECIPES

VIETTI LAYERED CHILI DIP

- » Prep: 10 min. » Cook: 25 min.
- » 2 cans of your favorite Vietti Chili
- » 1 bag Corn Chips
- » 1 jar Salsa
- » 1 small carton Sour Cream
- » Chopped Tomatoes & Cilantro Leaves for Topping

Sprinkle a layer of crushed corn chips on the bottom of a bowl. Top with 1 can of heated Vietti Chili. Spread 1/2 of the guacamole over the Vietti Chili. Add 1/2 of the salsa over the previous layer, spreading each layer out to the edges of the bowl. Repeat layer. Top final layer with corn chips, fresh tomatoes & cilantro.



SPICY CHIPOTLE LIME DIP

Serves: 8 Prep Time: 5 min. Cook Time: 0 min.

- » ½ cup light mayonnaise
- » ½ cup light sour cream
- » 2 Tbsp. **MRS. DASH®** Southwest Chipotle Seasoning Blend
- » 1 lime, zest and juice

1. Combine all ingredients together in medium bowl until smooth and creamy.
2. Refrigerate covered for at least an hour before serving with fresh vegetables, crackers or tortilla chips.

An easy and tasty low-sodium and low-carb dip that travels well!



CHICAGO STYLE SMOKED SAUSAGE

- » 1/3 cup ketchup
- » 1/4 cup chopped pepper
- » 2 tablespoons pickle relish
- » 2 tablespoons chopped onion
- » 1/4 teaspoon poppy seeds
- » 4 **Bigger Than The Bun Smoked Sausages**
- » 4 hot dog buns – split

In a small bowl combine ketchup, peppers, relish, onion and poppy seeds. Cover and chill up to 3 days.

To grill by direct head method: Grill smoked sausage on an uncovered grill directly over medium coals for 8 minutes.

Turn smoked sausage and brush with some of the ketchup mixture. Grill for 6-8 minutes more or until heated through.

To serve, toast cut sides of buns on grill. Serve smoked sausage in the buns and top each with remaining ketchup mixture. Servings 4

TEXAS PETE® HOTTER HOT WINGS

- » 2½ pounds (12 – 15) whole chicken wings
- » 3 tablespoons **TEXAS PETE® HOTTER HOT SAUCE**
- » 2 tablespoons butter or margarine

Cut whole wings at joints and discard wing tips. Place the pieces on absorbent paper to dry. To cook, choose one of the following methods:

1. DEEP FRY at 375 degrees for 10–12 minutes or until crispy
2. OVEN BAKE at 450 degrees for 35 minutes or until done

Melt 2 tablespoons of butter or margarine in a sauce pan, add 3 tablespoons of **TEXAS PETE® HOTTER HOT SAUCE** and stir well. To coat, place cooked wings and blended sauce in a large covered bowl. Shake gently. Serve with celery sticks and blue cheese dressing.





It's a
Kick
in the can



Charlie Weis takes great pleasure in the popular notion that Notre Dame will take a step back after consecutive BCS bids. "They tell me that we're too young, too much in transition, new defense. ... What are we going to do, win two, three? Okay, we'll see," smiles Weis, in anticipation of his third year at the helm of his alma mater.

Weis may like the challenge, and he may have a few tricks up his sleeve to combat the naysayers. But there's no denying that a third straight trip to a BCS game looks unlikely without quarterback Brady Quinn, whose name is plastered throughout the Notre Dame record book after leading the Irish to 19 victories in two years.

Also gone are Notre Dame's top two all-time receivers — Jeff Samardzija and Rhema McKnight — as well as three offensive linemen and three defensive linemen.

Weis has brought in highly respected coach Corwin Brown to correct the defensive woes, particularly in the secondary, where the Irish have made a habit of getting torched by opposing passing games. Yet Brown, considered one of the top young defensive minds following a stint coaching the secondary of the New York Jets, has never been a coordinator.

The schedule begins with Georgia Tech, at Penn State, at Michigan, Michigan State, at Purdue, at UCLA, Boston College and USC. If the Irish can survive the first two-thirds of the season, they should finish strong in November with home games against Navy, Air Force and Duke, and a trip to Stanford.

Quarterbacks Weis seemed to take great pleasure in the secrecy of the quarterback race this spring. He gave each of the four quarterbacks one week as the No. 1 signal-caller, as well as one week as No. 2, 3 and 4. Junior Evan Sharpley, who served as Quinn's backup in '06, had the skimpiest résumé coming out of the prep ranks. But Sharpley might have the best combination of knowledge/skills within Weis' pro-style system. Redshirt freshmen Demetrius Jones and Zach Frazer both believe they are the successors to Quinn. Jones adds a running dimension to the equation while Frazer is more of a drop-back quarterback. True freshman Jimmy Clausen is the people's choice after leading his Oaks Christian HS team in California to 42 straight victories and four straight state titles. He arrived in the spring to put himself on level ground with the competition. "None of the four played themselves out of contention, and I think that's the strongest statement I can make," said Weis upon the conclusion of spring practice. "Normally, someone separates because he plays better. Sometimes it happens because he plays worse. That didn't happen."

Running Backs Underrated Darius Walker found ways to get the job done both carrying and catching the football. But Notre Dame's ability to play power football often was limited by Walker's finesse style of running that featured draws and delays. Senior Travis Thomas, a running back who moved to linebacker in '06, is back in the offensive backfield with sophomore James Aldridge, another slam-it-in-there-type running back. Freshman Armando Allen, a true breakaway threat, gives the Irish halfbacks an added dimension. Unheralded senior Junior Jabbie made a pitch for playing time in the spring. Equally important to the rushing attack are fullbacks Asaph Schwapp and Luke Schmidt, with the former providing a powerful lead block and the latter adding more of a rushing threat.

NUMBERS GAME

3 Notre Dame's returning defensive backs had a combined three interceptions in 2006 — all by senior cornerback Terrail Lambert.

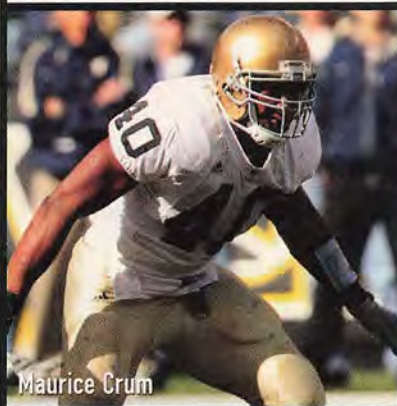
Receivers Gone are Samardzija and McKnight, who finished one-two on the Irish all-time reception list. There were no obvious heirs in the spring, although junior David Grimes has some experience (he scored a touchdown in the Sugar Bowl vs. LSU), and sophomore George West, who returned kickoffs and scored on a reverse in limited action as a rookie, moves into the starting lineup. After those two, it's nothing but youth and/or inexperience at wideout. The news is much more promising at tight end, which the young Irish signal-callers would be wise to rely upon. Senior John Carlson was on his way to an All-America season when he went down with a knee injury in the 10th game of '06. Carlson is back and looking to emerge once again as one of the nation's top tight ends. Behind Carlson, sophomores Konrad Reuland and Will Yeatman, as well as four-star freshman Mike Ragone, continue a strong Notre Dame tradition at the tight end position.

Offensive Linemen The Irish will be young along the offensive line, but coach John Latina thinks he might have the makings of an outstanding unit, led by fifth-year senior center John Sullivan and five-star prep All-American Sam Young, who started all 13 games at right tackle as a true freshman in '06. Junior Paul Duncan, who spelled Young at right tackle last year, appears ready to be an asset at the left tackle slot. Another junior, Mike Turkovich, has moved from backup tackle to starting left guard after a preseason

TWO-MINUTE DRILL

A QUICK LOOK AT THE IRISH

Even with several highly touted young quarterbacks in line to replace Brady Quinn, the offense won't be as explosive without the record-setting signal-caller at the controls. Plus, the loss of the top two receivers in Irish history — Jeff Samardzija and Rhema McKnight — makes the passing game a major question mark heading into the fall. The ground game — minus Darius Walker, Notre Dame's No. 4 all-time rusher — could be better off in the long run with a stable of backs, once a youthful but talented offensive line comes together. Hard-charging running backs Travis Thomas and James Aldridge, along with shifty freshman Armando Allen, should give the Irish a bit more power and speed on the ground. Ultimately, however, it will come down to how far first-year coordinator Corwin Brown can take his defense in the new 3-4 personnel scheme. The back eight is fairly talented and experienced. But the front three, led by veteran Trevor Laws, is the major question mark, particularly against the most challenging first eight games in the country. The Irish will count on punter Geoff Price, an All-America candidate, to shift the field position when the offense bogs down and the defensive front is exposed.



Maurice Crum

2007 SCHEDULE

S. 1	Georgia Tech	L
S. 8	at Penn State	L
S. 15	at Michigan	L
S. 22	Michigan State	W
S. 29	at Purdue	*
O. 6	at UCLA	L
O. 13	Boston College	*
O. 20	USC	L
N. 3	Navy	W
N. 10	Air Force	W
N. 17	Duke	W
N. 24	at Stanford	W

*Games in bold represent games crucial to the season.
W or L indicates a projected win or loss



Notre Dame DB
Tom Zbikowski

neck injury curtailed his progress in '06. One of a trio of youngsters is expected to emerge at right guard: Dan Wenger, a center by trade, Matt Carufel or Eric Olsen. Inconsistent recruiting prior to Weis' arrival has left little margin for error with the depth along the offensive line.

Defensive Linemen Not only are the players in the defensive trenches adapting to a new scheme, but they're doing it without the benefit of much collegiate playing experience, save for fifth-year senior Trevor Laws, who moves from a defensive tackle position in a 4-3 to a defensive end position in a 3-4. No other player along the defensive front has any appreciable playing experience. Gone are veteran ends Victor Abiamiri and Chris Frome, as well as underrated defensive tackle Derek Landri, who arguably was Notre Dame's best defensive lineman each of the past three seasons. Junior Pat Kuntz, undersized at 272 pounds in the spring, is being counted on to win the starting nose tackle slot, although 340-pound redshirt freshman Chris Stewart was switched from offensive guard to add some bulk. Senior Dwight Stephenson Jr., the son of the Hall of Fame Miami Dolphins center, will try to make an impact for the first time in his collegiate career. If Stephenson doesn't get the job done, senior Justin Brown likely will get a crack at it. Junior Derrell Hand, who played both nose tackle and end in the spring, should contribute after an injury-plagued '06.

RISING STAR

Limited to mop-up duty and special teams play as a freshman, 6'1", 244-



pound Taryan Smith moved past veteran Joe Brockington into a starting inside linebacker slot in the spring. Smith brings the power and pop to the linebacker position that was missing in '06.

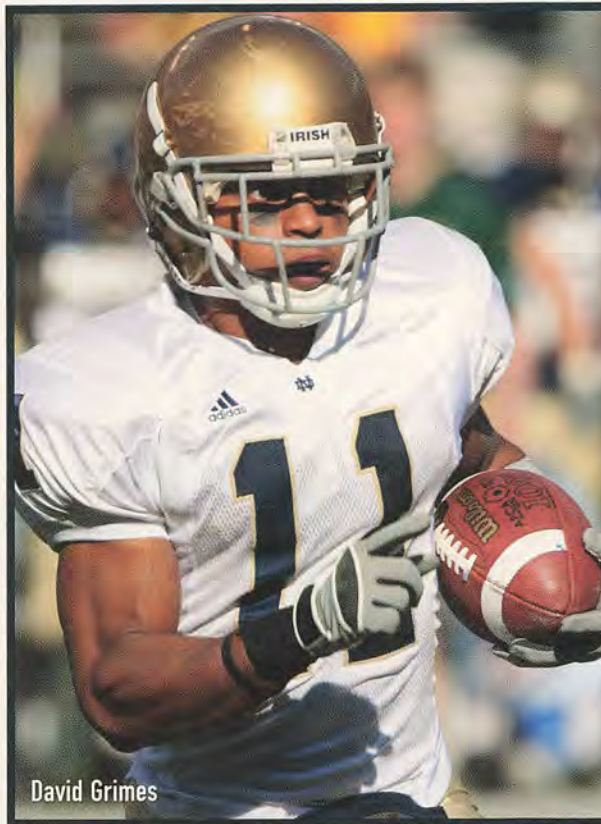
SCOUTING THE IRISH

Opposing coaches size up Notre Dame: "Charlie (Weis) is the offensive genius, right? Now we're going to see why. They lost a lot on offense. (Brady) Quinn and (Jeff) Samardzija are huge, huge losses, and I don't think you can make up for them in one season. Those guys were players. Defensively, they need to be bigger up front, and play with aggression. I don't think they did that last year. ... They can be very difficult to prepare for. They use a lot of different formations, which can cause some problems for the defense. ... The big key for this team will be at quarterback. Can they get by without getting great production from the position?"

Linebackers Undersized as a whole in 2006, Notre Dame's linebacker corps looks like it could be a strength this year in the 3-4 alignment. Senior Maurice Crum Jr., who has played in a variety of spots/roles the past two years, will man one inside linebacker position this fall. He'll line up next to Toryan Smith, an aggressive, hard-hitting sophomore who moved past 2006 starter Joe Brockington in the spring. John Ryan, a backup defensive end as a true freshman in the 4-3 scheme, moves into a starting role at outside linebacker in the 3-4. Senior Anthony Vernaglia, junior Scott Smith and sophomore Morrice Richardson, another former end in the 4-3, will battle for playing time at the other outside linebacker position.

Defensive Backs The Irish have struggled mightily trying to find solutions in the secondary in recent years. Safety Tom Zbikowski turned in an excellent sophomore season in '05 but struggled with a shoulder problem and some additional weight in '06 as he dabbled in professional boxing. Zbikowski's back for a fifth year and appears primed for a standout finale. He'll likely be joined at safety by junior David Bruton, who is 25 pounds heavier than when he arrived but still possesses the ball skills that he flashed early in his career. Underrated Mike Richardson is gone at cornerback, but senior Terrail Lambert emerged as a big-play performer in '06, while fifth-year senior Ambrose Wooden hopes to avoid the knee problems that opened the door for Lambert last year.

Specialists Punter Geoff Price returns for a fifth year after an outstanding 2006 season in which he averaged 45.4 yards per punt on 50 attempts. A kicker must emerge from among sophomores Ryan Burkhart and Nate Whitaker, and freshman Brandon Walker. None has attempted a field goal on the collegiate level. Zbikowski was a threat returning punts in '05 but dropped off significantly (from a 14.0-yard average to 9.0) last year. Weis made kickoff returns a priority in the spring after the Irish ranked among the bottom 15 percent in the country in '06.



David Grimes

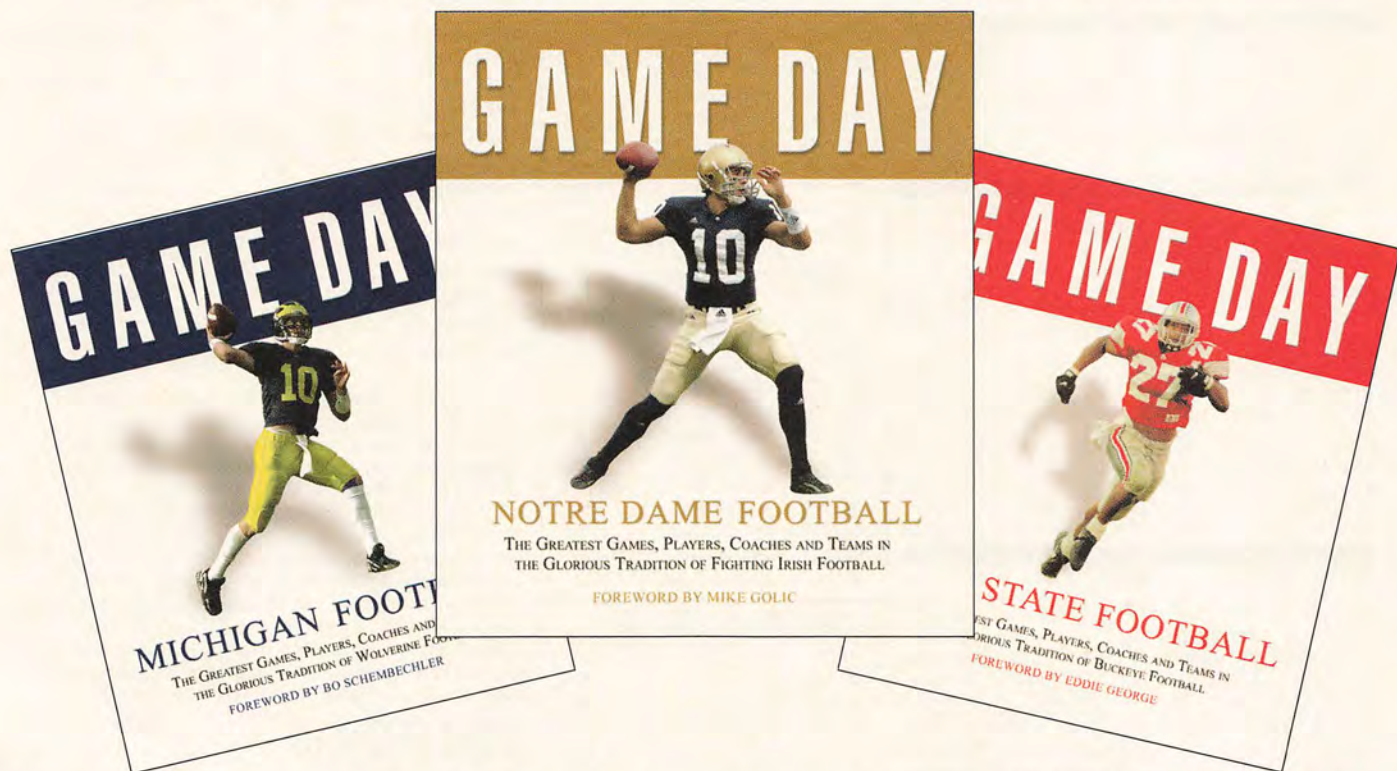
OUTSIDE THE HUDDLE

Confidence personified There is no shortage of self-assuredness among Notre Dame's two redshirt freshmen quarterbacks. Asked about his chances of winning the job, Zach Frazer doesn't hesitate. "In my eyes, I'm No. 1, hands down," Frazer says. Demetrius Jones is equally confident. "I didn't come here to be a backup," Jones says. "I didn't come here to be anybody's sidekick."

Two for one When 6'0", 255-pound fullback Asaph Schwapp was lost for the final 11 games of the 2006 season with a knee injury, Notre Dame's ground game suffered. Schwapp is back and ready to do his job — with or without the football. "I just want to hit somebody," Schwapp says. Redshirt freshman Luke Schmidt, a two-time 2,000-yard rusher in high school, will provide a complement to Schwapp.

Tough talk First-year defensive coordinator Corwin Brown talks the talk. Now he's hoping his defense walks the walk. "I want guys that are aggressive. I want guys who really enjoy running and hitting, and when they get the chance, they're going to plum knock somebody's block off," Brown says.

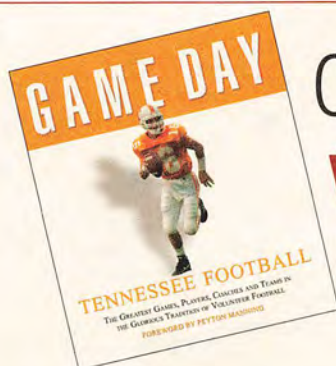
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2007 NOTRE DAME ROSTER

Quarterbacks		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
7	Clausen, Jimmy	QB	6'5"	207	Fr.	Westlake Village, CA
12	Frazer, Zach	QB	6'4"	226	Fr.	Mechanicsburg, PA
16	Gillett, Justin	QB	5'11"	180	Sr.	Santa Barbara, CA
3	Jones, Demetrius	QB	6'4"	210	Fr.	Chicago, IL
13	Sharpley, Evan	QB	6'2"	212	Jr.	Marshall, PA
Running Backs		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
34	Aldridge, James	RB	6'0"	213	So.	Crown Point, IN
5	Allen, Armando	RB	5'10"	190	Fr.	Opa Locka, FL
36	Cure, Dex	RB	6'0"	220	So.	Wray, CO
37	Jabbie, Junior	RB	5'11"	190	Sr.	Parlin, NJ
32	Schmidt, Luke	FB	6'3"	252	Fr.	Jasper, IN
44	Schwapp, Asaph	FB	6'0"	255	Jr.	Hartford, CT
26	Thomas, Travis	RB	6'0"	218	Sr.	Washington, PA
Receivers		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
39	Brooks, Kevin	TE	6'2"	230	So.	Thousand Oaks, CA
89	Carlson, John	TE	6'6"	259	Sr.	Litchfield, MN
42	Costanzo, David	WR	5'9"	165	Jr.	El Paso, TX
24	Erickson, Brandon	WR	6'0"	185	Sr.	Marlboro, NJ
21	Gallup Jr., Barry	WR	5'11"	181	Fr.	Wellesley, MA
11	Grimes, David	WR	6'0"	174	Jr.	Detroit, MI
1	Hord, D.J.	WR	6'1"	192	Jr.	Lee's Summit, MO
80	Jackson, Richard	WR	6'3"	204	Fr.	Clermont, FL
82	Parris, Robby	WR	6'3"	201	So.	Olmstead Falls, OH
45	Patterson, Kris	WR	5'11"	185	Jr.	Seattle, WA
46	Planalp, Michael	TE	6'4"	248	Jr.	Cincinnati, OH
38	Possley, Nick	WR	6'1"	191	Sr.	Wheaton, IL
88	Reuland, Konrad	TE	6'6"	255	So.	San Capistrano, CA
29	Richardville, Jake	WR	6'0"	180	Sr.	Fort Wayne, IN
86	Talerico, Mike	TE	6'5"	250	Sr.	St. Louis, MO
19	West, George	WR	5'8"	188	So.	Spencer, OK
84	Yeatman, Will	TE	6'6"	263	So.	San Diego, CA
Offensive Linemen		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
67	Bemenderfer, Thomas	C	6'5"	285	Jr.	Mishawaka, IN
73	Carufel, Matt	G	6'5"	295	So.	Forest Lake, MN
72	Duncan, Paul	T	6'7"	291	Jr.	Dallas, GA
55	Olsen, Eric	G	6'4"	300	So.	Staten Island, NY
78	Sullivan, John	C	6'4"	290	Sr.	Old Greenwich, CT
63	Tisak, Jeff	T	6'3"	300	Jr.	Ambridge, PA
77	Turkovich, Mike	G	6'6"	299	Jr.	Bedford, PA
71	Webb, Bartley	T	6'7"	290	Fr.	Springdale, AR
51	Wenger, Dan	C/G	6'4"	282	Fr.	Coral Springs, FL
74	Young, Sam	T	6'7"	315	So.	Coral Springs, FL
Defensive Linemen		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
94	Brown, Justin	DE	6'3"	255	Sr.	Clinton, MD
92	Hand, Derrell	NT	6'3"	287	Jr.	Philadelphia, PA
69	Kennedy, Neil	DL	5'11"	266	Sr.	Phoenix, AZ
96	Kuntz, Pat	NT	6'2"	272	Jr.	Indianapolis, IN
98	Laws, Trevor	DE	6'1"	295	Sr.	Burnsville, MN
93	Mullen, Paddy	DE	6'5"	285	Fr.	St. Louis, MO
57	Stephenson Jr., Dwight	DE	6'2"	257	Sr.	Delray Beach, FL
59	Stewart, Chris	NT	6'5"	340	Fr.	Spring, TX
97	Wade, Kallen	DE	6'5"	240	Fr.	Cincinnati, OH
Linebackers		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
52	Brockington, Joe	ILB	6'1"	235	Sr.	Palmyra, PA
40	Crum Jr., Maurice	ILB	6'0"	225	Sr.	Riverview, FL
48	Quinn, Steve	ILB	6'2"	231	Jr.	Cherry Hill, NJ
53	Richardson, Morrice	OLB	6'2"	235	So.	College Park, GA
90	Ryan, John	OLB	6'5"	244	So.	Westlake, OH
41	Smith, Scott	ILB	6'3"	244	Jr.	Highland Park, IL
49	Smith, Toryan	ILB	6'0"	244	So.	Rome, GA
54	Vernaglia, Anthony	OLB	6'3"	233	Sr.	Anaheim Hills, CA
42	Washington, Kevin	OLB	6'1"	240	Jr.	Sugar Land, TX
Defensive Backs		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
43	Anello, Mike	DB	5'10"	170	Jr.	Orland Park, IL
31	Brown, Sergio	S	6'1"	196	So.	Maywood, IL
27	Bruton, David	S	6'2"	202	Jr.	Miamisburg, OH
15	Ferrine, Leo	CB	6'0"	189	Sr.	Springfield, NJ
29	Gaines, Jashaad	S	6'0"	196	Fr.	Las Vegas, NV
24	Gordon, Leonard	S	5'11"	190	Fr.	Clarksville, TN
4	Gray, Gary	CB	5'11"	180	Fr.	Columbia, SC
6	Herring, Ray	S	5'10"	190	Jr.	Melbourne, FL
38	Jams, Wade	DB	5'9"	183	Sr.	Mishawaka, IN
20	Lambert, Terrail	CB	5'11"	191	Sr.	Oxnard, CA
28	McCarthy, Kyle	S	6'0"	200	Jr.	Youngstown, OH
8	McNeil, Raeshon	CB	6'0"	184	So.	Cooleemee, NC
25	Prince, Munir	CB	5'10"	184	So.	Florissant, MO
2	Walls, Darrin	CB	6'0"	180	So.	Pittsburgh, PA
23	Williams, William David	DB	5'10"	173	Sr.	Raleigh, NC
22	Wooden, Ambrose	CB	5'11"	190	Sr.	Baltimore, MD
9	Zbikowski, Tom	S	6'0"	210	Sr.	Arlington Heights, IL
Specialists		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
39	Burkhart, Ryan	K	5'11"	196	So.	Wakarusa, IN
61	Jansen, J.J.	LS	6'3"	242	Sr.	Phoenix, AZ
43	Maust, Eric	P	6'1"	177	So.	Roswell, GA
17	Price, Geoffrey	P	6'3"	196	Sr.	Hurst, TX
33	Whitaker, Nate	K	5'9"	165	So.	San Diego, CA

PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE (4)

WR	11	David Grimes	Jr.
WR	19	George West	So.
LT	72	Paul Duncan	Jr.
LG	77	Mike Turkovich	Jr.
C	78	John Sullivan	Sr.
RG	51	Dan Wenger	Fr.
RT	74	Sam Young	So.
TE	89	John Carlson	Sr.
QB	13	Evan Sharpley	Jr.
FB	44	Asaph Schwapp	Jr.
RB	26	Travis Thomas	Sr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

WR	82	Robby Parris	So.
WR	21	Barry Gallup	Fr.
LT	71	Bartley Webb	Fr.
LG	55	Eric Olsen	So.
C	67	Thomas Bemenderfer	Jr.
RG	73	Matt Carufel	So.
RT	71	Bartley Webb	Fr.
TE	84	Will Yeatman	So.
QB	7	Jimmy Clausen	Fr.
FB	32	Luke Schmidt	Fr.
RB	34	James Aldridge	So.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE (5)

DE	98	Trevor Laws	Sr.
NT	96	Pat Kuntz	Jr.
DE	57	Dwight Stephenson	Sr.
OLB	90	John Ryan	So.
ILB	40	Maurice Crum	Sr.
ILB	49	Toryan Smith	So.
OLB	54	Anthony Vernaglia	So.
CB	20	Terrail Lambert	Sr.
CB	22	Ambrose Wooden	Sr.
S	9	Tom Zbikowski	Sr.
S	27	David Bruton	Jr.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

DE	92	Derrell Hand	Jr.
NT	59	Chris Stewart	Fr.
DE	94	Justin Brown	Sr.
OLB	41	Scott Smith	Jr.
ILB	52	Joe Brockington	Sr.
ILB	48	Steve Quinn	Jr.
OLB	53	Morrice Richardson	So.
CB	2	Darrin Walls	So.
CB	15	Leo Ferrine	Sr.
S	6	Ray Herring	Jr.
S	28	Kyle McCarthy	Jr.

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	39	Ryan Burkhart	So.
P	17	Geoff Price	Sr.
KR	19	George West	So.
PR	9	Tom Zbikowski	Sr.

Returning Starters In Bold

Head Coach: Charlie Weis
Record at School: 19-6 (2 years)
Career Record: 19-6 (2 years)
Offensive Coordinator: Michael Haywood
Defensive Coordinator: Corwin Brown
South Bend, Ind.
Notre Dame Stadium (80,795)

2007 SIGNEES

Armando Allen	RB	5'10"	189	Opa Locka, FL
Jimmy Clausen	QB	6'3"	207	Westlake Village, CA
Taylor Dever	OL	6'5"	275	Grass Valley, CA
Gary Gray	DB	5'11"	178	Columbia, SC
Robert Hughes	RB	5'11"	230	Chicago, IL
Duval Kamara	WR	6'4"	205	Hoboken, NJ
Aaron Nagel	LB	6'1"	215	Lemont, IL
Kerry Neal	DL	6'3"	230	Bunn, NC
Andrew Nuss	DL	6'5"	285	Ashburn, VA
Emeka Nwankwo	OL	6'4"	280	Miramar, FL
Steve Paskorz	LB	6'1"	210	Allison Park, PA
Mike Ragone	TE	6'5"	230	Cherry Hill, NJ
Matt Romine	OL	6'5"	275	Tulsa, OK
Brian Smith	LB	6'2"	230	Overland Park, KS
Harrison Smith	DB	6'2"	205	Knoxville, TN
Golden Tate	WR	6'0"	190	Hendersonville, TN
Brandon Walker	P/K	6'2"	190	Findlay, OH
Ian Williams	DL	6'2"	295	Altamonte Springs, FL

As impressive as Charlie Weis' third recruiting class was — led by five-star quarterback Jimmy Clausen — more attention seemed to be given to the top-rated defensive linemen and linebackers who got away. The loss of Martez Wilson (Illinois), Justin Trattou (Florida), Ben Martin (Tennessee), Chris Donald (Tennessee) and Will Blackwell (LSU) greatly diminished Notre Dame's signing class on the defensive side of the ball. Still, Weis snagged a top 10 class on the basis of Clausen and four-star performers Armando Allen (halfback), Duval Kamara (receiver), Golden Tate (receiver), Mike Ragone (tight end), Kerry Neal (defensive end/outside linebacker), Gary Gray (cornerback) and Harrison Smith (safety). The Irish are hoping they get some immediate backup help along the defensive line from Ian Williams, Emeka Nwankwo and Andrew Nuss.

2006 RESULTS

Record: 10-3

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Att.
S. 2	at Georgia Tech	W	14-10	56,680
S. 9	Penn State	W	41-17	80,795
S. 16	Michigan	L	21-47	80,795
S. 23	at Michigan State	W	40-37	80,193
S. 30	Purdue	W	35-21	80,795
O. 7	Stanford	W	31-10	80,795
O. 21	UCLA	W	20-17	80,795
O. 28	at Navy	W	38-14	71,851
N. 4	North Carolina	W	45-26	80,795
N. 11	at Air Force	W	39-17	49,367
N. 18	Army	W	41-9	80,795
N. 25	at USC	L	24-44	91,800
J. 3	#LSU	L	14-41	77,781

#Sugar Bowl

2006 INDIVIDUAL STATS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.
Brady Quinn	467	289	3,426	37	7
Evan Sharpley	2	1	7	0	0
Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
Darius Walker	255	1,267	5.0	7	
James Aldridge	37	142	3.8	0	
Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
Jeff Samardzija	78	1,017	13.0	12	
Rhema McKnight	67	907	13.5	15	
Darius Walker	56	391	7.0	1	
John Carlson	47	634	13.5	4	

Kicking: Carl Gioia, 8-13 FGs, 49-54 XPs, 73 points

Tackles: Maurice Crum, 100; Chinedum Ndukwe, 98

Sacks: Victor Abiamiri, 10.5

Interceptions: Mike Richardson, 4

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The image displays three overlapping screenshots of the Grogan's Fantasy Football website. The top screenshot shows the 'GROGAN'S Fantasy Football 2007 Cheat Sheets and Draft Help' page with a search bar and navigation links. The middle screenshot shows the 'GROGAN'S Update Report' dated 5/12/07, featuring a 'Fantasy Football' section with a 'Player Scope' link. The bottom screenshot shows the 'GROGAN'S Player Scope - Player Directory' page, which lists players in various columns, including 'Player', 'Team', 'Position', and 'Rank'. A 'Player Scope' sidebar on the right lists players in a grid format.



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BIG 12

CONFERENCE

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BIG 12 CONFERENCE PREVIEW



Years ago, someone taught Texas linebacker Jared Norton how to make a tackle. But no one ever showed him how to hold a knife — or better yet, cut a steak. “One piece at a time,” Norton says. “One piece at a time. Those kinds of (things) apply in business and in life.”

Hoping to improve their etiquette in social settings, Norton and a herd of his teammates attended a class at Ruth’s Chris Steakhouse last spring. Among the topics discussed: how to approach a job interview, what to wear to a banquet and how to identify your drinking glass at a crowded, set table. “I thought I already had good manners,” kicker Hunter Lawrence said, “but there are a lot of pointers you pick up. We’re going to be representing the school while we’re here and we want to do a great job.”

On the field, most would argue that the Longhorns already have. Texas has won 10 or more games for six straight seasons and is 34–4 since 2004. This year looks to be more of the same in Austin, where Mack Brown’s squad is once again expected to compete with Oklahoma for the Big 12 title.

The Longhorns return their top three skill players in quarterback Colt McCoy, tailback Jamaal Charles and receiver Limas Sweed — and no one doubts that Texas’ defensive line will be among the country’s best. The biggest questions involve depth on the offensive line and a lack of experience in the defensive secondary, where Texas was torched for 236.2 passing yards per game last season.

A failure to correct those problems could open the door for Oklahoma, which doesn’t seem too concerned about the loss of quarterback Paul Thompson and standout running back Adrian Peterson. With battle-tested Allen Patrick in the backfield along with Chris Brown and spring head-turner DeMarco Murray, the Sooners are confident they’ll be able to score some points. Cornerbacks Reggie Smith and Marcus Walker will make it tough on teams looking to throw.

Texas A&M returns virtually all of its offensive line along with quarterback Stephen McGee and running backs Michael Goodson and Jorvorskie Lane. The Aggies, though, have one of the Big 12’s toughest road schedules. That being said, the sleeper in the South could be Oklahoma State — but only if quarterback Bobby Reid stays healthy.

Texas Tech is hoping some receivers step up after the graduation of Joel Filani, Robert Johnson and Jarrett Hicks. Baylor’s quarterback situation should keep the Bears in the Big 12 cellar.

The Big 12 North will likely be a two-team race between Nebraska and Missouri. The Cornhuskers lost All-Big-12 quarterback Zac Taylor. But they will still be strong at that position with Arizona State transfer Sam Keller, who will be throwing to the league’s top receiving corps. “This offense is very similar conceptually to what I’ve done before, and I’m used to attacking a defense in the same way,” Keller says. “I’m looking forward to my chance.”

Chase Daniel has put up some gaudy numbers at Missouri, but the Tigers still can’t shake their habit of faltering late in the season. Kansas State and Kansas will be competitive enough to beat just about anyone but inconsistent enough to lose to anyone, too. Look for Colorado to be the North’s most improved squad while Iowa State begins to rebuild under new coach Gene Chizik.



Colt McCoy

BIG 12 NOTEBOOK »

HAWK HITS GAINESVILLE

Colorado’s Dan Hawkins flew to Florida during the Buffaloes’ spring break — but not to go to the beach. Instead Hawkins watched Urban Meyer and the defending national champion Gators go through three days of spring practice. “It’s good to just get out, compare notes and see how other people do things,” Hawkins says. “Sometimes in your profession you end up gravitating to guys that march to the same drummer. (Meyer) is solid. He’s a good guy and a good coach.”

HUSKER HIKE

It’s not getting any cheaper to go to a Nebraska football game. School officials have announced a \$4-per-game increase in season tickets, meaning seats average out to \$52 per game. According to athletic director Steve Pederson, the main reason for the hike is the increased guarantee money Nebraska has to pay its non-conference opponents. “It wasn’t too many years ago when we were talking about \$250,000–\$300,000 (per game),” Pederson says. “Now we’re getting up to \$750,000.”

One other Nebraska note: After he injured his knee during the spring, the initial prognosis was that cornerback Zack Bowman would be out for the season. But defensive coordinator Kevin Cosgrove insists that Bowman will return in time for the Sept. 1 opener against Nevada. Look for Andre Jones to take Bowman’s place if he can’t play.

PREDICTED ORDER OF FINISH

NORTH

1. NEBRASKA
2. MISSOURI
3. KANSAS STATE
4. KANSAS
5. COLORADO
6. IOWA STATE

SOUTH

1. TEXAS
2. OKLAHOMA
3. TEXAS A&M
4. OKLA. STATE
5. TEXAS TECH
6. BAYLOR

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BIG 12 PREVIEW

BIG 12 NOTEBOOK, CONT. »

NO LOVE FOR PRINCE?

There's been a high rate of turnover — involving both players and assistant coaches — at Kansas State since Ron Prince took over prior to the 2006 season. Count former starting lineman John Hafferty as someone who apparently didn't enjoy his time in Manhattan. At least not under Prince. "I consider it to have been a great privilege and an honor to have played for Coach (Bill) Snyder and Kansas State," Hafferty says. "I will always be grateful to him, his former staff and the university for giving me that opportunity."

"All I did was take cash. I didn't break any laws, and I get kicked off the team. But there's people on the team that are breaking laws and failing drug tests and stuff like that, and there's nobody getting kicked off the team for that type of stuff."

— Former Oklahoma offensive lineman J.D. Quinn, who accepted money for hours he did not work at an Oklahoma car dealership.

CAN YOU PUNT?

True freshman Jonathan LaCour is expected to punt for Texas Tech this fall, but he won't arrive on campus until the summer. Thus, without a punter on his spring roster, Red Raiders coach Mike Leach placed a want-ad in the school newspaper.

"It's unbelievable," Leach said. "It's been going crazy. We've got message machines filled up. This little project has kept a lot of folks busy."

"The truth is out. This vindicates my players."

— Missouri coach Gary Pinkel, after officials admitted they shouldn't have made the holding call that wiped out Chase Daniels' go-ahead touchdown against Iowa State in the final seconds. Missouri ended up losing the game.

"I think it was a good call. It wasn't like, 'Here, let's take care of Mac after 12 years in the Big 12.' I watched the tape and I saw a hold."

— Iowa State coach Dan McCarney, on that same call, which came in his final game as a Cyclone.

FATTEN HIM UP

Kansas doesn't appear to be fretting about the graduation of Big 12 rushing leader Jon Cornish. Sophomore Jake Sharp — the second all-time leading rusher in Kansas high school history — had a strong spring and is poised to take Cornish's place.

The one problem is that the 5'10", 190-pound Sharp may be a bit undersized. To make sure he gained weight, members of KU's strength staff were present all spring when Sharp ate his meals.

"For me, breakfast lasts about two-and-a-half hours," Sharp says. "I think I can be a 30-carry-a-game guy. Anything they ask me to do, I'm going to give it my all. I don't think I'll have a problem as far as having the toughness to do it."

LOST RECRUIT

Baylor figured it had found a replacement for graduating senior quarterback Shawn Bell when G.J. Kinne committed to the Bears last winter. Kinne, though, eventually reneged on his promise and pledged to Texas. The catch: G.J.'s father, Gary Joe, is a Baylor assistant.

Senior Mike Machen, a transfer from Kent State who also spent time at Alabama and a junior college, will enter preseason camp atop the Baylor depth chart. But the Bears have three other options — Blake Szymanski, who stepped in after Bell went down with an injury late last year, junior college transfer John David Weed, junior walk-on Ryan Roberts and redshirt freshman Tyler Beatty.

KEY GAMES

SEPT. 1 OKLAHOMA STATE AT GEORGIA

Big 12 could get signature win in season's first week.

SEPT. 15 USC AT NEBRASKA

Having faced the Trojans before, NU quarterback Sam Keller won't be intimidated.

SEPT. 20 TEXAS A&M AT MIAMI

Franchione needs to beat a high-profile opponent.

OCT. 6 TEXAS VS. OKLAHOMA

As always, the winner becomes league favorite.

OCT. 6 NEBRASKA AT MISSOURI

Big 12 opener pits two best teams from the North.

OCT. 13 TEXAS A&M AT TEXAS TECH

Red Raiders will rack up points — but the Aggies might, too.

OCT. 27 NEBRASKA AT TEXAS

Huskers almost beat Horns last year — but that was in Lincoln.

OCT. 27 OKLAHOMA AT OKLAHOMA STATE

Sooners are still the top team in the state, but the balance is a little less tilted.

NOV. 3 NEBRASKA AT KANSAS

Jayhawks took Huskers to overtime last season. Now they're at home.

NOV. 17 OKLAHOMA AT TEXAS TECH

Hopefully the Red Raiders have found some receivers by now.

NOV. 23 TEXAS AT TEXAS A&M

Beating Mike Goodson and the Aggies in College Station won't be easy.

NOV. 24 KANSAS VS. MISSOURI

Mark Mangino has won three of his last four against Gary Pinkel. And this one's at a neutral site in K.C.



Layne Murdoch

BIG 12 CONFERENCE PREVIEW

2007 ATHLON PRESEASON ALL-BIG 12 TEAM »



Martin Rucker



Marcus Watts

FIRST-TEAM OFFENSE

QB COLT MCCOY

6'3" 205 SO. TEXAS
Led league in passing efficiency; 29 TD's and only seven picks.

RB JAMAAL CHARLES

6'1" 200 JR. TEXAS
Poised for a monster season as the Horns' primary ball-carrier.

RB DANTRELL SAVAGE

5'9" 190 SR. OKLAHOMA STATE
Ranked third in the league in rushing last season.

WR ADARIUS BOWMAN

6'4" 220 SR. OKLAHOMA STATE
Had 1,181 receiving yards last year — including 300 against Kansas.

WR MALCOLM KELLY

6'4" 217 JR. OKLAHOMA
Averaged 16 yards per catch in 2006.

TE MARTIN RUCKER

6'6" 255 SR. MISSOURI
One-half of the nation's finest tight end tandem.

C CODY WALLACE

6'4" 294 SR. TEXAS A&M
Veteran starter whose leadership will be key; 24 consecutive starts.

OL ANTHONY COLLINS

6'6" 300 JR. KANSAS
NFL prospect is one of only two returning starters on the line.

OL TONY HILLS

6'6" 305 SR. TEXAS
A big key to Jamaal Charles' season.

OL DUKE ROBINSON

6'5" 330 JR. OKLAHOMA
One of the country's most imposing trench warriors.

OL MATT SLAUSON

6'5" 335 JR. NEBRASKA
Pass-blocking skills help Huskers offense.

SPECIALISTS

K GARRETT HARTLEY

5'9" 198 SR. OKLAHOMA
Made 19-of-20 field goals and 49-of-50 PAT's last season.

P MATT FODGE

6'1" 195 JR. OKLAHOMA STATE
Ranked third in the league with a 44.9-yard average.

FIRST-TEAM DEFENSE

DL IAN CAMPBELL

6'5" 232 JR. KANSAS STATE
Big 12-best 17 tackles for a loss in 2006.

DL CHRIS HARRINGTON

6'5" 267 SR. TEXAS A&M
Led team in sacks and tackles for a loss.

DL DEREK LOKEY

6'2" 280 SR. TEXAS
Horns' top lineman; missed last five games with broken leg.

DL FRANK OKAM

6'5" 320 SR. TEXAS
Bypassed draft to return for senior year.

LB ALVIN BOWEN

6'2" 216 SR. IOWA STATE
Had a league-high 155 tackles in 2006.

LB JORDON DIZON

6'0" 225 SR. COLORADO
Averaged 10.1 stops per game.

LB BO RUUD

6'3" 235 SR. NEBRASKA
Moving from the weak side to the strong side.

CB REGGIE SMITH

6'1" 197 JR. OKLAHOMA
Moving back to corner after playing strong safety in '06.

CB AQIB TALIB

6'2" 180 JR. KANSAS
Led the nation in passes defended in 2006.

S RYAN WALTERS

5'11" 200 JR. COLORADO
Excelled in CU secondary even though he was never quite healthy.

S MARCUS WATTS

6'1" 189 SR. KANSAS STATE
One of conference's most underrated players.

KR PERRISH COX

6'1" 180 SO. OKLAHOMA STATE
Averaged 23.8 yards per touch.

PR REGGIE SMITH

6'1" 197 JR. OKLAHOMA
One of Big 12's most dependable return men.

Watts: Larry Smith; Rucker: Bruce Schwartzman

2006 BIG 12 BOWL RESULTS

INDEPENDENCE BOWL DEC. 28 SHREVEPORT, LA.: OKLAHOMA STATE 34, ALABAMA 31 <>> HOLIDAY BOWL DEC. 28 SAN DIEGO, CALIF.: CALIFORNIA 45, TEXAS A&M 10
TEXAS BOWL DEC. 28 HOUSTON, TEXAS: RUTGERS 37, KANSAS STATE 10 <>> SUN BOWL DEC. 29 EL PASO, TEXAS: OREGON STATE 39, MISSOURI 38
INSIGHT BOWL DEC. 29 TEMPE, ARIZ.: TEXAS TECH 44, MINNESOTA 41 <>> ALAMO BOWL DEC. 30 SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS: TEXAS 26, IOWA 24
COTTON BOWL JAN. 1 DALLAS, TEXAS: AUBURN 17, NEBRASKA 14 <>> FIESTA BOWL JAN. 1 GLENDALE, ARIZ.: BOISE STATE 43, OKLAHOMA 42

SECOND-TEAM OFFENSE

QB	Chase Daniel	6'0"	225	Jr.	Missouri
RB	Mike Goodson	6'0"	192	So.	Texas A&M
RB	Allen Patrick	6'0"	191	Sr.	Oklahoma
WR	Todd Blythe	6'5"	209	Sr.	Iowa State
WR	Limas Sweed	6'5"	219	Sr.	Texas
TE	Chase Coffman	6'6"	245	Jr.	Missouri
C	Jon Cooper	6'2"	285	Jr.	Oklahoma
OL	Brannndon Braxton	6'6"	312	Jr.	Oklahoma
OL	Kirk Elder	6'5"	298	Sr.	Texas A&M
OL	Louis Vasquez	6'6"	341	Jr.	Texas Tech
OL	David Washington	6'3"	310	Jr.	Oklahoma State

SECOND-TEAM DEFENSE

DL	James McClinton	6'1"	283	Sr.	Kansas
DL	Nathan Peterson	6'2"	240	Sr.	Oklahoma State
DL	Ndamukong Suh	6'4"	305	So.	Nebraska
DL	Lorenzo Williams	6'1"	295	Sr.	Missouri
LB	Roddrick Muckelroy	6'2"	230	So.	Texas
LB	Joe Pawelek	6'2"	231	So.	Baylor
LB	Mike Rivera	6'3"	250	Jr.	Kansas
CB	Marcus Walker	5'11"	192	Sr.	Oklahoma
CB	Terrence Wheatley	5'10"	175	Sr.	Colorado
S	Marcus Griffin	6'0"	202	Sr.	Texas
S	Andre Sexton	6'1"	205	So.	Oklahoma State

SECOND-TEAM SPECIALISTS

K	Jeff Wolfert	6'2"	185	Jr.	Missouri
P	Kyle Tucker	6'2"	205	Sr.	Kansas
KR	Marcus Herford	6'3"	210	Jr.	Kansas
PR	Danny Amendola	5'11"	177	Sr.	Texas Tech

THIRD-TEAM OFFENSE

QB	Stephen McGee	6'3"	208	Jr.	Texas A&M
RB	Tony Temple	5'9"	200	Sr.	Missouri
RB	Shannon Woods	5'11"	190	Jr.	Texas Tech
WR	Will Franklin	6'2"	205	Sr.	Missouri
WR	Maurice Purify	6'4"	220	Sr.	Nebraska
TE	Martellus Bennett	6'7"	248	Jr.	Texas A&M
C	Adam Spieker	6'3"	305	Sr.	Missouri
OL	Yemi Babalola	6'4"	298	Jr.	Texas A&M
OL	David Koenig	6'5"	290	Sr.	Oklahoma State
OL	Tyler Luellen	6'7"	295	Sr.	Missouri
OL	Jason Smith	6'5"	288	Jr.	Baylor

THIRD-TEAM DEFENSE

DL	Red Bryant	6'5"	324	Sr.	Texas A&M
DL	DeMarcus Granger	6'3"	300	So.	Oklahoma
DL	Brian Orakpo	6'4"	248	Jr.	Texas
DL	Jake Ratliff	6'8"	250	Jr.	Texas Tech
LB	Jon Banks	6'2"	219	Sr.	Iowa State
LB	Robert Killebrew	6'2"	230	Sr.	Texas
LB	Corey McKeon	6'1"	225	Sr.	Nebraska
CB	Danny Gorrer	6'0"	178	Jr.	Texas A&M
CB	Martel Van Zant	6'1"	210	Sr.	Oklahoma State
S	Joe Garcia	6'1"	217	Sr.	Texas Tech
S	Darrell Stuckey	6'1"	202	So.	Kansas

THIRD-TEAM SPECIALISTS

K	Alex Trlica	5'11"	176	Sr.	Texas Tech
P	Justin Brantly	6'4"	228	Jr.	Texas A&M
KR	Kerry Franks	5'11"	196	Sr.	Texas A&M
PR	Carl Sims	5'10"	182	Jr.	Baylor

BIG 12 PREVIEW

TOP 20 BIG 12 FRESHMEN (BY SCOUT.COM) »

1. Tray Allen OL 6'5" 310 Grand Prairie, TX Texas
Athletic OL who could see immediate action at guard or tackle.
2. Curtis Brown CB 6'1" 175 Gilmer, TX Texas
A true cover guy with great speed, instincts and can support the run.
3. Ryan Miller T 6'8" 310 Littleton, CO Colorado
A prototype tackle who is super in pass pro and run blocking.
4. Dre Jones DT 6'5" 295 El Paso, TX Texas
Very big, powerful, quick and fast. Has great movement down the line.
5. John Chiles WR 6'2" 197 Dallas, TX Texas
An Anquan Boldin-type of receiver. Very dangerous with the ball.
6. Richetti Jones DE 6'4" 240 Dallas, TX Oklahoma State
Undersized DE. A great pass rusher off the edge. Athletic and quick.
7. Austin Box S 6'3" 220 Enid, OK Oklahoma
A ferocious hitter who could play SS or LB. More natural in the secondary.
8. Russell Carter DE 6'3" 240 Houston, TX Texas
Ultra-quick end who excels at rushing the quarterback.
9. Derrick Stephens LB 6'2" 228 Houston, TX Texas A&M
A likely strong-side backer who is big, fast and physical.
10. Dez Bryant WR 6'1" 220 Lufkin, TX Oklahoma State
Terrific big-play WR. Strong in the air and with the ball in his hands.
11. Ben Wells CB 6'1" 185 Beaumont, TX Texas
Physical corner with excellent closing speed.
12. Chris Scott S 6'0" 185 Dallas, TX Texas
Fluid safety who plays well in run support and coverage.
13. Earl Thomas CB 5'10" 183 Orange, TX Texas
Smaller cover guy with great hips and quickness. Could also be a tailback.
14. James Kirkendoll WR 5'11" 175 Round Rock, TX Texas
A WR who is a big play waiting to happen. Very, very explosive.
15. Javorio Burkes T 6'5" 315 Phoenix, AZ Nebraska
Prototype tackle who plays well in pass pro.
16. William Cole CB 6'0" 175 Cedar Hill, TX Oklahoma State
Super prospect who is cat-quick. Very good cover skills.
17. Markques Simas WR 6'2" 195 San Diego, CA Colorado
Nice route-runner who is strong at the line of scrimmage.
18. Adrian Moore S 6'0" 200 Pine Bluff, AR Oklahoma State
Sleeper who didn't play his sophomore and junior seasons.
19. Niles Paul WR 6'1" 210 Omaha, NE Nebraska
A WR with speed to stretch the field. Good hands and concentration.
20. Damian Davis WR 6'5" 190 Mart, TX Oklahoma State
Big WR with loads of upside. Raw but athletic. Once he gets stronger, look out.

RECRUITING BY SCHOOL »

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. TEXAS | 7. MISSOURI |
| 2. NEBRASKA | 8. TEXAS TECH |
| 3. OKLAHOMA STATE | 9. BAYLOR |
| 4. TEXAS A&M | 10. KANSAS STATE |
| 5. OKLAHOMA | 11. IOWA STATE |
| 6. COLORADO | 12. KANSAS |

BIG 12 PREVIEW

BIG SHOES TO FILL »

SAM KELLER, QB, NEBRASKA

Keller sat out last season after transferring from Arizona State, where he lost his starting job. Keller should be just as — if not more — productive than predecessor Zac Taylor, a first-team All-Big 12 selection.

MICHAEL CRABTREE, WR, TEXAS TECH

Joel Filani and Robert Johnson each caught more than 75 passes in 2006. Jarrett Hicks is a former 1,000-yard receiver. With all three gone, Red Raider fans are hoping Crabtree can be productive after redshirting last season.

CHYKIE BROWN, CB, TEXAS

Both corners are gone from a Texas squad that ranked 99th in the country in pass defense. Brown, one of the most highly touted players in the Longhorns' 2006 recruiting class, should make an impact as a redshirt freshman.

GENE CHIZIK, HEAD COACH, IOWA STATE

Iowa State was hardly competitive by the end of last season. Still, overall, former coach Dan McCarney had a successful tenure in Ames. Whether Chizik can do the same in a tough situation remains to be seen.

ALLEN PATRICK AND DEMARCO MURRAY, RBs, OKLAHOMA

Patrick was the starter when Adrian Peterson was hurt last season, but the versatile Murray was the buzz of spring practice. Expect both to see significant action.

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO...

We decided to take a look at what happens to head coaches when they leave a school — whether they are fired, forced to resign or leave of their own accord. Dating back to 1990, here is a list of every Big 12 head coach, what their next job was and what they are doing now.

Baylor

Grant Teaff (1972-92)
Chuck Reedy (1993-96)
Dave Roberts (1997-98)
Kevin Steele (1999-02)

Colorado

Bill McCartney (1982-94)
Rick Neuheisel (1995-98)
Gary Barnett (1999-05)

Iowa State

Jim Walden (1987-94)
Dan McCarney (1995-06)

Kansas

Glen Mason (1988-96)
Terry Allen (1997-01)

Kansas State

Bill Snyder (1989-05)

Missouri

Bob Stull (1989-93)
Larry Smith (1994-00)

Nebraska

Tom Osborne (1973-97)
Frank Solich (1998-03)

Oklahoma

Gary Gibbs (1989-94)
Howard Schnellenberger (1995)
John Blake (1996-98)

Oklahoma State

Pat Jones (1984-94)
Bob Simmons (1995-00)
Les Miles (2001-04)

Texas

David McWilliams (1987-91)
John Mackovic (1992-97)

Texas A&M

R.C. Slocum (1989-03)

Texas Tech

Spike Dykes (1987-99)

Next Job

Retired
Offensive coordinator, South Carolina
Tight ends coach, South Carolina
Linebackers coach, Florida State

Next Job

None in football
Head coach, Washington
Retired

Next Job

Retired
Defensive line coach, South Florida

Next Job

Head coach, Minnesota
Tight ends/special teams, Iowa State

Next Job

Retired

Next Job

None in football
None in football

Next Job

None in football
Head coach, Ohio University

Next Job

None in football
None in football
Camp director

Next Job

Offensive line specialist, Chicago Bears
Linebackers coach, Notre Dame
Head coach, LSU

Next Job

None in football
Head coach, Arizona ('01)

Next Job

None in football

Next Job

Retired

Now

Still retired
Head coach Goose Creek (S.C.) HS
TBD
Defensive coordinator, Alabama

Now

Retired
Offensive coordinator, Baltimore Ravens
Still retired

Now

Still retired/media
Defensive line coach, South Florida

Now

TBD
Head coach, Missouri State

Now

Still retired

Now

Athletic director, UTEP
TV Analyst

Now

U.S. Congressman
Head coach, Ohio University

Now

Defensive coordinator, N.O. Saints
Head coach, Florida Atlantic
Defensive line coach, North Carolina

Now

Sportstalk Radio Host
TE/Special teams coach, Washington
Head coach, LSU

Now

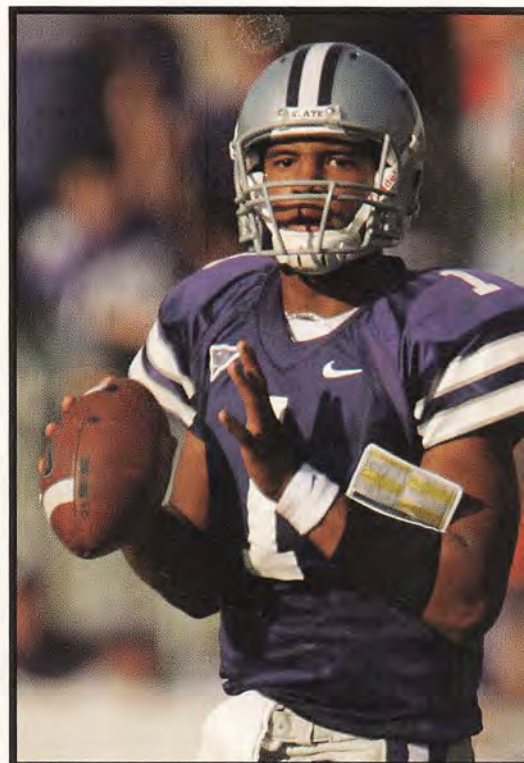
Director, T-Association
Retired

Now

Special advisor, Texas A&M

Now

Still retired



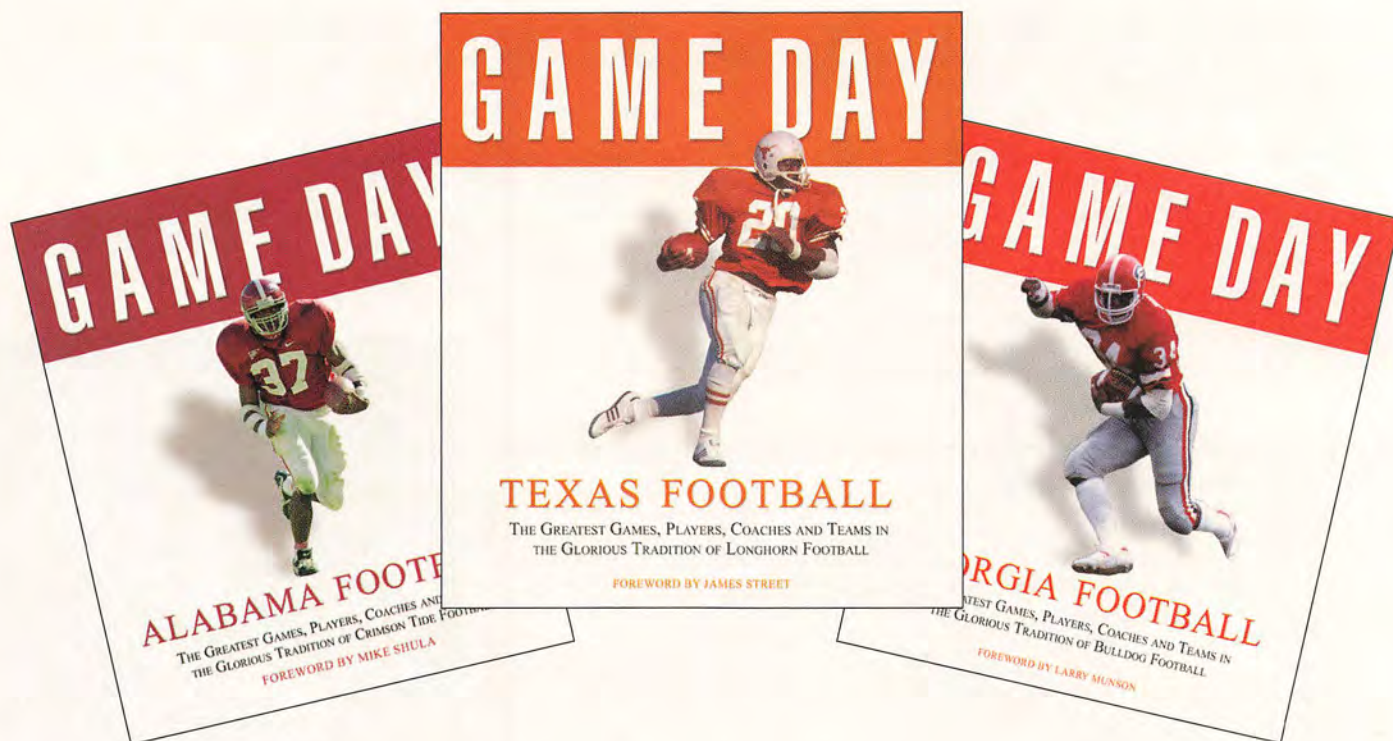
Josh Freeman

THEY SAID IT »

"We want players who want us, because we feel that Nebraska is a special, special situation. If you're a prima donna, if you're a drama queen, there's no room for you at Nebraska. You can go to Kansas State."

— Nebraska coach Bill Callahan in reference to K-State quarterback Josh Freeman, who originally pledged to the Huskers.

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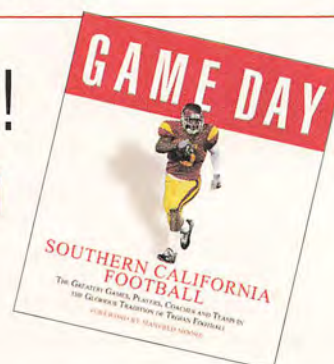
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2006 BIG 12 STANDINGS

North	Big 12	Overall
NEBRASKA	6-2	9-5
MISSOURI	4-4	8-5
KANSAS STATE	4-4	7-6
KANSAS	3-5	6-6
COLORADO	2-6	2-10
IOWA STATE	1-7	4-8
South	Big 12	Overall
OKLAHOMA	7-1	10-3
TEXAS	6-2	10-3
TEXAS A&M	5-3	9-4
TEXAS TECH	4-4	8-5
OKLAHOMA STATE	3-5	7-6
BAYLOR	3-5	4-8

2007 UNIT RANKINGS

	QB	RB	WR/TE	OL	DL	LB	DB
BAYLOR	12	12	11	9	10	9	11
COLORADO	11	9	12	8	5	4	3
IOWA STATE	8	11	6	12	12	5	12
KANSAS	9	10	8	6	6	7	9
KANSAS STATE	7	7	10	10	8	11	8
MISSOURI	1	5	3	7	9	10	10
NEBRASKA	3	8	1	3	4	1	5
OKLAHOMA	10	3	2	2	2	6	1
OKLAHOMA STATE	6	2	5	5	7	3	2
TEXAS	2	4	4	4	1	2	7
TEXAS A&M	5	1	7	1	3	8	6
TEXAS TECH	4	6	9	11	11	12	4



Graham Harrell

BIG 12 RETURNING CONFERENCE LEADERS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Int.	Pct.	Yds.	TD	Avg/G
Graham Harrell, Texas Tech	617	412	11	66.8	4,555	38	350.4
Chase Daniel, Missouri	452	287	10	63.5	3,527	28	271.3
Colt McCoy, Texas	318	217	7	68.2	2,570	29	197.7
Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Avg/G	Long	
Tony Temple, Missouri	196	1,063	5.5	7	81.8	65	
Shannon Woods, Texas Tech	152	926	6.1	10	71.2	51	
Jamaal Charles, Texas	155	831	5.4	7	69.2	46	
Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Avg/G	Long	
Shannon Woods, Texas Tech	75	572	7.6	2	44.0	54	
Adarius Bowman, Oklahoma State	60	1,181	19.7	12	90.8	75	

Tackles: Alvin Bowen, Iowa State (155); Jordon Dizon, Colorado (137)

Sacks: Ian Campbell, Kansas State (11.5); Nathan Peterson, Oklahoma State (8.0)

2006 BIG 12 TEAM STATS & RANKINGS

	Offense				Defense			
	Score	Rush	Pass	Total	Score	Rush	Pass	Total
BAYLOR	23.6 (9)	40.2 (12)	275.0 (3)	315.2 (11)	32.6 (12)	191.1 (12)	217.1 (7)	408.2 (12)
COLORADO	16.3 (12)	172.9 (5)	118.5 (12)	291.4 (12)	22.2 (6)	112.4 (4)	228.5 (9)	340.9 (7)
IOWA STATE	18.8 (11)	101.8 (10)	216.1 (6)	317.8 (9)	30.8 (11)	153.8 (11)	238.5 (11)	392.2 (11)
KANSAS	29.0 (7)	176.6 (4)	197.7 (9)	374.2 (7)	25.5 (9)	109.0 (3)	269.1 (12)	378.1 (10)
KANSAS STATE	22.8 (10)	115.2 (9)	200.1 (8)	315.2 (10)	23.8 (7)	148.8 (9)	197.0 (5)	345.8 (8)
MISSOURI	30.1 (6)	149.5 (8)	276.2 (2)	425.6 (2)	19.5 (4)	134.5 (7)	185.7 (2)	320.2 (3)
NEBRASKA	30.6 (4)	170.5 (6)	244.1 (4)	414.6 (3)	18.3 (2)	116.6 (5)	215.3 (6)	331.9 (5)
OKLAHOMA	30.3 (5)	177.1 (3)	191.6 (10)	368.7 (8)	17.3 (1)	98.7 (2)	188.4 (3)	287.1 (1)
OKLAHOMA STATE	35.2 (2)	208.0 (1)	201.8 (7)	409.8 (4)	25.6 (10)	146.7 (8)	217.4 (8)	364.1 (9)
TEXAS	35.9 (1)	162.6 (7)	228.8 (5)	391.5 (6)	18.3 (3)	62.1 (1)	236.2 (10)	298.3 (2)
TEXAS A&M	27.8 (8)	206.8 (2)	190.5 (11)	397.4 (5)	20.5 (5)	132.1 (6)	190.5 (4)	322.6 (4)
TEXAS TECH	32.5 (3)	79.3 (11)	369.5 (1)	448.8 (1)	25.1 (8)	151.1 (10)	182.4 (1)	333.5 (6)

Guy Morriss had to feel like the head of a temp agency, seeing an endless line of applicants and conducting countless interviews in his busiest offseason to date. Four years after bringing his staff intact from Kentucky, the Baylor head coach had to replace five assistants during the offseason, and he goes into a pivotal fifth season with only one holdover from his original staff. The restructuring left safeties coach Larry Hoefler as the defensive coordinator and four new assistants working with second-year offensive coordinator Lee Hays.

"Actually, it's the best coaching staff that I've ever had or been around," says Hays, who added receivers coaches Kasey Dunn and Jason Phillips, running backs coach Cornell Jackson and assistant line coach Eric Schnupp, "with the exception of the quarterbacks coach. That's the only place we're hurting." The self-deprecating Hays is referring to his new job as the quarterbacks coach. He assumed the duties when Wes Phillips left to join his dad, Wade Phillips, with the Dallas Cowboys.

Hays' unenviable task is finding a replacement for Shawn Bell, who completed 63 percent of his passes and threw for a school-record 2,582 yards and 19 touchdowns in only nine games before suffering a knee injury. Without Bell in the lineup, the Bears (4-8, 3-5) lost their last three games and were outscored, 157-55, to extend their bowl drought to 12 years.

"When we had a young quarterback come in, the people around him didn't do enough to help him and take some of the pressure off of him," Morriss says of sophomore Blake Szymanski. "It's not just an offensive problem, it's a whole team deal. Our special teams were pitiful down the stretch, our defense didn't play well enough and we didn't coach good enough. We all have to take responsibility for what happened."

But this year's success could hinge on the crowded quarterback position, where Hays has to pick from Szymanski, senior transfer Michael Machen from Kent State, junior college transfer John David Weed, junior walk-on Ryan Roberts and redshirt freshman Tyler Beatty.

Quarterbacks Machen has a wealth of experience, making his fourth stop in a collegiate tour that started at Alabama. He threw for more than 2,000 yards at both Coffeyville (Kan.) Community College and Kent State, but this is his first year in a new offense. "Usually I've got some depth limits and ceilings on some routes," Hays said. "But I've never had a guy that throws a 70-yard post on a rope. He probably has one of the strongest arms I've ever seen. But he's still got to make great decisions and be accurate."

Szymanski threw for 647 yards in his three starts and showed a great deal of mobility. And if he doesn't win the starting job at quarterback, he has the athleticism to move to another spot. Roberts is the surprise entry. A transfer from Division II Midwestern State, he's a film-study fanatic. "All he does is show up and try to outwork everybody else," Hays said. The final decision could go right down to the wire.

NUMBERS GAME

40.2 With the switch to the spread offense, the Bears ranked last among 119 NCAA Division I-A teams in rushing yards with 40.2 per game.

Running Backs As bad as the rushing attack was last year — a national-low 40.2 yards per game — it can't all fall on the running backs. Actually, Paul Mosley and Brandon Whitaker combined for seven touchdowns and a 4.5-yard average per carry. With Mosley gone, Whitaker should slide into the starting job and give the Bears a much better receiving threat out of the backfield. Over the last two seasons, he's had 60 catches for 352 yards. But don't count out redshirt freshman Jay Finley. He brings good explosion between the tackles.

Receivers Dominique Zeigler and Trent Shelton finished their careers as two of Baylor's all-time leading receivers, leaving a huge void. But if the spring proved anything, the cupboard's not bare. Instead of relying on one or two primary receivers, the Bears will bank on a deep corps of receivers that includes Ernest Smith, Mikail Baker, Thomas White, Queito Teasley, David Gettis and junior college transfer Eddy Newton at the outside spots. "If the guy's going 90 percent, that's not good enough," says Dunn, the new receivers coach. "Let's pull him out, put the next guy in and see if he'll go 100 percent. If No. 1 plays 100 percent all the time, then he's going to stay in there. But if he starts to gear down at all, we're going to give that next guy his shot." At the inside positions, the Bears can use tight ends like Justin Akers and Jordan Adams or utilize more speed with Carl Sims, Justin Fenty and converted quarterback Brad Taylor.

Offensive Linemen After spoon-feeding his linemen last year, Morriss will try to get them up to solid food with a group that includes three returning starters and Arizona State transfer J.D. Walton at center. "We're coming together real smooth, because we have guys that took a lot of snaps last year," says 6'5",

A QUICK LOOK AT THE BEARS

Even after winning their most conference games (three) in the 11-year history of the Big 12, the Bears posted their 12th consecutive losing season and failed to get a contract extension for coach Guy Morriss. With that cloud still hanging over his head, there's pressure to win in a year when they have to replace seven starters on offense and find a pair of starting cornerbacks on defense. This is the second year in the new spread offense that Lee Hays brought with him from Division II West Texas A&M, but a lot falls on the quarterback position. Kent State transfer Michael Machen appears to be the most likely starter, because "that sucker's got a gun," according to Hays. The question is whether he can be as accurate and make the right decisions that made Shawn Bell so effective in the offense. Another area that needs to make drastic improvement is kick coverage and returns. When special teams coach Mark Nelson left for Tulsa, the unit took a big step back. After a difficult opener against Mountain West-favorite TCU, the non-conference schedule is soft enough for a good start out of the gates. But the Bears better get their wins early, because they close with five straight games against bowl teams.



Dwain Crawford

2007 SCHEDULE

S. 1	at TCU	L
S. 8	Rice	*
S. 15	Texas State	W
S. 22	at Buffalo	W
S. 29	at Texas A&M	L
O. 6	Colorado	L
O. 13	at Kansas	L
O. 20	Texas	L
O. 27	at Kansas State	L
N. 3	Texas Tech	L
N. 10	at Oklahoma	L
N. 17	Oklahoma State	L

*Games in bold represent games crucial to the season.
W or L indicates a projected win or loss

Baylor LB
Joe Pawelek



288-pound junior Jason Smith, who has moved from right to left tackle. "That's the difference between then and now. We understand it, and we all know what we're supposed to do." Beyond Smith and left guard Dan Gay, though, there are more questions than answers. Senior Chad Smith had such severe back cramps at the end of last season that he couldn't even get down in his three-point stance. Walton's in a new position and hasn't played since the 2004 season at Allen (Texas) High School, and sophomores Thad Boatner and Jordan Hearvey got only a handful of snaps last year. And depth may be the biggest question of all. With no proven backups, true freshmen John Jones, Courtney Green and Anthony Morgan may get a shot right out of the box.

Defensive Linemen The Bears have to get more push and production from a front four that had only 7.5 sacks and 29.5 stops behind the line a year ago. Starting ends Jason Lamb and Geoff Nelson figure to be better, but they're also getting seriously pushed by redshirt freshman Jameon

Hardeman and junior college transfer Leon Freeman. Creating the biggest buzz in the spring were tackles Vincent Rhodes and Trey Bryant. "They're not pups anymore," Morriss says. "I tell you what, we couldn't block those guys." An intriguing prospect in the middle is 6'3", 290-pound freshman tackle Rex McDougald, a Class 1A all-stater who came to school a semester early after graduating in December.

Linebackers For the first time since '04, the Bears don't have to replace both starting linebackers. Joe Pawelek is a returning freshman All-American who had a team-high 86 tackles and nine quarterback hurries, while Nick Moore had 75 tackles, two forced fumbles and four stops behind the line. There are also high hopes for sophomore Antonio Jones and true freshman Earl Patin, a four-star recruit.

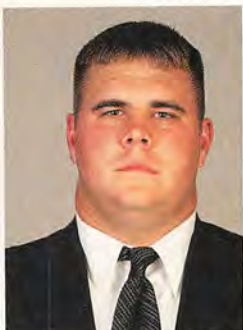
Defensive Backs Last year's embarrassment of riches at cornerback is now the team's biggest area of concern. With C.J. Wilson, Anthony Arline and James Todd all gone and senior Braelon Davis once again fighting for academic survival, the door is open for redshirt freshmen Antareis Bryan and Dominique Criss and even incoming freshmen Cliff Odom and Larry Rosebud. "We've got some young kids back there that are going to have to grow up in a hurry," Morriss says. Free safety Jordan Lake was impressive enough before breaking his collarbone in the fifth game last season that Dwain Crawford's been moved to the rover position with returning starter Brandon Stiggers.

Specialists Forget the questions at quarterback and cornerback, the thing that's keeping Morriss up at night is replacing two-time Ray Guy Award winner Daniel Sepulveda and kicker Ryan Havens. With no scholarship kickers in camp for spring drills, the jobs could fall to true freshmen Shea Brewster and Derek Epperson.

RISING STAR

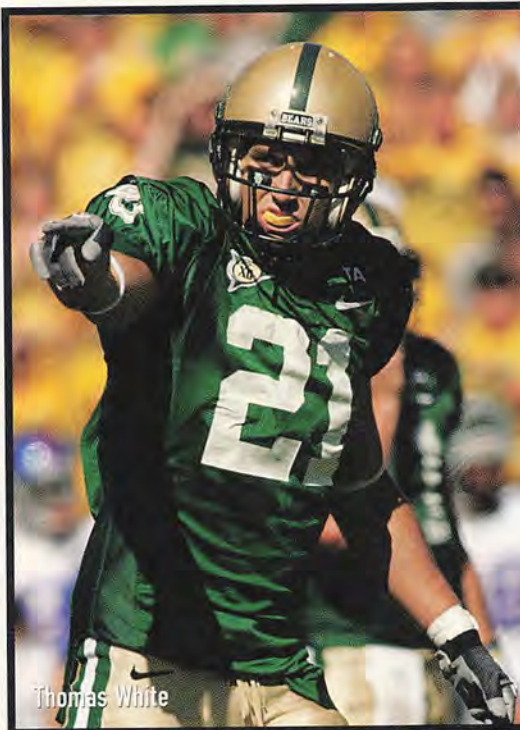
Sophomore J.D. Walton, a transfer from

Arizona State, moved into the starting lineup in the spring after sitting out last season. Although he played guard and tackle in high school, he's a natural at center and a strong leader.



SCOUTING THE BEARS

Opposing coaches size up Baylor: "Baylor is going to struggle because of their quarterback. The quarterback they had last year, (Shawn) Bell, was a really good football player. He could put the ball on the money in that Texas Tech offense. The key to that whole scheme is the quarterback, and now they don't have anyone top-notch back there. They just dropped off the face of the earth when they lost Bell last year. ... In the South, Baylor has no chance. You look at their facilities and having to recruit into Waco. It's a dreary town, and they're not giving the football program any support. Guy Morriss, from a manpower standpoint, is doing as good of a job as he can do. They do have some nice players. There just aren't enough of them. ... They're getting better each year under Guy Morriss. He can be a brash, annoying guy to opponents, but there's no doubt that he is a tough, hard-nosed guy, and his team has taken on his attitude. ... Defensively, they will get after you. You have to like how that young linebacker, Joe Pawelek, gets after it, but losing (cornerback) C.J. Wilson takes a big playmaker out of the lineup. ... And I thought the punter, Daniel Sepulveda, was there so long that he was a faculty member. He will make a great pro. ... When they spread the ball around offensively and make plays, they are good enough to beat just about anyone, especially at home. They manhandled a pretty good Kansas State team and went on the road to beat Colorado last year. But they are just not deep enough to win consistently. I like their tenacity, but there's just not enough talent to win consistently in this league."



Thomas White

KEY BEARS

Jason Smith, LT

Moved to the left side to protect QB's blind side.

Brandon Whitaker, RB

Has caught 30 passes each of the last two seasons.

Joe Pawelek, LB

Freshman All-American had team-high 86 tackles.

Dwain Crawford, S

Versatile safety could play any of three positions.

Vincent Rhodes, DT

Good run-stopper who should be improved pass-rusher.

KEY LOSSES

Shawn Bell, QB

His was missed in late-season slide.

Daniel Sepulveda, P

Two-time Ray Guy Award winner could be replaced by freshman.

Trent Shelton, WR

Go-to receiver who also set the standard for downfield blocking.

C.J. Wilson, CB

Media will miss the quote machine.

Wesley McGriff

Recruiting coordinator left for K-State and then Miami.

Dominique Zeigler, WR

Fifth in career receptions at Baylor.

PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE (4)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 21	Thomas White	Jr.
WR 82	Justin Akers	So.
WR 24	Carl Sims	Jr.
WR 13	Ernest Smith	So.
LT 72	Jason Smith	Jr.
LG 71	Dan Gay	Jr.
C 55	J.D. Walton	So.
RG 70	Chad Smith	Sr.
RT 74	Thad Boatner	So.
QB 7	Michael Machen	Sr.
RB 2	Brandon Whitaker	Sr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 4	David Gettis	So.
WR 80	Jordan Adams	Sr.
WR 18	Brad Taylor	Fr.
WR 3	Mikail Baker	Jr.
LT 78	Chris Griesenbeck	So.
LG 60	Sam Sledge	So.
C 53	Mike Miller	Sr.
RG 61	James Barnard	So.
RT 75	Jordan Hearvey	So.
QB 6	Blake Szymanski	So.
RB 32	Jay Finley	Fr.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE (6)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 88	Jason Lamb	So.
DT 97	Trey Bryant	So.
DT 91	Vincent Rhodes	Jr.
DE 57	Geoff Nelson	Sr.
MLB 41	Joe Pawelek	So.
WLB 44	Nick Moore	Sr.
CB 5	Braelon Davis	Sr.
CB 20	Alton Widemon	Sr.
OS 4	Jeremy Williams	So.
ROV 1	Dwain Crawford	Jr.
FS 21	Jordan Lake	So.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 49	Leon Freeman	Jr.
DT 92	Connor Redfearn	Sr.
DT 99	Rex McDougald	Fr.
DE 10	Jameon Hardeman	Fr.
MLB 34	Ben Hixson	Jr.
WLB 8	Antonio Jones	So.
CB 26	Antareis Bryan	Fr.
CB 27	Dominique Criss	Fr.
OS	Ray Sims	Jr.
ROV 9	Brandon Stiggers	Sr.
FS 30	Tim Atchison	Fr.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos. No.	Name	Class
K	Shea Brewster	Fr.
P	Derek Epperson	Fr.
KR 3	Mikail Baker	Jr.
PR 24	Carl Sims	Jr.

2007 BAYLOR ROSTER

Quarterbacks					Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
12	Beatty, Tyler	QB	6'3"	200	Fr.				Pflugerville, TX
5	LaMar, Luke	QB	6'2"	192	Fr.				Bedford, TX
7	Machen, Michael	QB	6'6"	237	Sr.				Mobile, AL
8	Roberts, Ryan	QB	6'0"	212	Jr.				Keller, TX
6	Szymanski, Blake	QB	6'4"	209	So.				Wichita Falls, TX
17	Weed, John David	QB	6'4"	214	Jr.				Houston, TX
Running Backs					Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
28	Anderson, Tony	RB	6'2"	232	So.				Arlington, TX
32	Finley, Jay	RB	5'11"	195	Fr.				Corsicana, TX
23	Gunnels, Trent	RB	5'11"	189	Fr.				Fairfield, TX
25	Jones, Jacoby	RB	5'11"	219	Jr.				Bangs, TX
35	Pierce, Andre	RB	5'10"	180	Fr.				Mesquite, TX
40	Vann, Keegan	FB	6'0"	255	Sr.				Katy, TX
2	Whitaker, Brandon	RB	5'10"	197	Sr.				Edmond, OK
Receivers					Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
80	Adams, Jordan	IR	6'4"	247	Sr.				Arlington, TX
82	Akers, Justin	IR	6'5"	237	So.				Deer Park, TX
3	Baker, Mikail	WR	6'0"	186	Jr.				Dallas, TX
19	Bennett, Joe	IR	5'7"	167	Jr.				Arlington, TX
88	Campbell, Ryan	WR	6'3"	187	So.				Fort Worth, TX
85	Fenty, Justin	IR	5'10"	174	So.				Denton, TX
4	Gettis, David	WR	6'4"	206	So.				Los Angeles, CA
87	Randle, Ben	IR	6'5"	206	Fr.				Plano, TX
24	Sims, Carl	IR	5'10"	182	Jr.				Waco, TX
13	Smith, Ernest	WR	6'3"	186	So.				New Orleans, LA
84	Swindle, Patrick	WR	5'11"	180	Fr.				Tyler, TX
18	Taylor, Brad	IR	6'3"	232	Fr.				Madisonville, TX
10	Teasley, Queito	WR	6'1"	187	Jr.				Katy, TX
21	White, Thomas	WR	6'2"	206	Jr.				Plano, TX
Offensive Linemen					Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
61	Barnard, James	G	6'4"	291	So.				Overland Park, KS
74	Boatner, Thad	T	6'7"	289	So.				Hamilton, TX
71	Gay, Dan	G	6'5"	311	Jr.				Lafayette, LA
78	Griesenbeck, Chris	T	6'3"	267	So.				San Antonio, TX
79	Hagens, Dylan	T	6'7"	277	Fr.				Shiner, TX
69	Hasoon, Ricky	G	6'2"	289	Sr.				Katy, TX
75	Hearvey, Jordan	T	6'4"	305	So.				Richardson, TX
64	Michel, Jeremy	G	6'5"	292	Fr.				Bradenton, FL
53	Miller, Mike	C	6'3"	273	Sr.				Lake Charles, LA
77	Prince, Reid	C	6'4"	274	Fr.				Frisco, TX
60	Sledge, Sam	G	6'2"	270	So.				Midland, TX
70	Smith, Chad	G	6'6"	280	Sr.				Allen, TX
72	Smith, Jason	T	6'5"	288	Jr.				Dallas, TX
73	Tanner, Ted	T	6'3"	291	Sr.				Waco, TX
55	Walton, J.D.	C	6'2"	322	So.				Allen, TX
Defensive Linemen					Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
97	Bryant, Trey	NT	6'3"	310	So.				Dallas, TX
94	Buford, Chris	NT	6'4"	264	Fr.				Arlington, TX
58	Carey, Chris	DE	6'3"	245	So.				New Braunfels, TX
49	Freeman, Leon	DE	6'2"	235	Jr.				Vero Beach, FL
51	Geib, Adam	DE	6'5"	250	Jr.				Waco, TX
10	Hardeman, Jameon	DE	6'1"	262	Fr.				Dallas, TX
59	King, Randy	DT	6'3"	242	Fr.				Alice, TX
88	Lamb, Jason	DE	6'6"	253	So.				Richardson, TX
99	McDougald, Rex	DT	6'3"	290	Fr.				Iola, TX
57	Nelson, Geoff	DE	6'2"	260	Sr.				Cedar Hill, TX
92	Redfearn, Connor	NT	6'2"	287	Sr.				Mt. Pleasant, TX
91	Rhodes, Vincent	DT	6'2"	302	Jr.				Denison, TX
95	Taylor, Damien	DT	6'3"	271	So.				Waco, TX
93	Walters, Raylon	DE	6'5"	228	So.				Houston, TX
Linebackers					Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
56	Calhoun, Cooper	LB	6'2"	249	So.				Garland, TX
52	Findley, Ty	LB	6'0"	210	Jr.				Marshall, TX
34	Hixson, Ben	LB	6'2"	225	Jr.				Southlake, TX
8	Jones, Antonio	LB	6'3"	226	So.				Dallas, TX
47	King, Tyler	LB	6'3"	205	So.				Atlanta, GA
48	Lopez, Daniel	LB	5'11"	230	Sr.				Brownsville, TX
46	Lowe, Chad	LB	6'1"	223	Fr.				Los Angeles, CA
44	Moore, Nick	LB	6'1"	226	Sr.				Arlington, TX
41	Pawelek, Joe	LB	6'2"	231	So.				Spring Branch, TX
50	Shalala, Sam	LB	6'1"	223	Jr.				Sugar Land, TX
Defensive Backs					Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
30	Atchison, Tim	FS	6'2"	203	Fr.				Copperas Cove, TX
2	Bell, Josh	CB	6'0"	168	Sr.				Dallas, TX
26	Bryan, Antareis	CB	6'1"	186	Fr.				Dallas, TX
1	Crawford, Dwain	ROV	6'0"	208	Jr.				Giddings, TX
27	Criss, Dominique	CB	5'9"	189	Fr.				Arlington, TX
5	Davis, Braelon	CB	5'11"	170	Sr.				Dallas, TX
32	Jenkins, Desmond	OS	5'10"	198	Jr.				Trinidad, TX
42	Jones, Zach	OS	5'11"	195	Sr.				Pflugerville, TX
17	Kushneir, Alex	S	6'1"	195	Fr.				Basking Ridge, NJ
21	Lake, Jordan	FS	6'2"	209	So.				Houston, TX
12	LaMar, Jake	ROV	6'0"	188	Jr.				Bedford, TX
11	Price, Marlon	FS	6'2"	193	Jr.				Dallas, TX
7	Rodriguez, Ralph	CB	5'10"	181	Sr.				Fort Stockton, TX
19	Schupp, Kevin	S	6'1"	180	Fr.				Prosper, TX
9	Stiggers, Brandon	ROV	6'0"	199	Sr.				Houston, TX
20	Widemon, Alton	CB	5'11"	178	Sr.				Lindale, TX
4	Williams, Jeremy	OS	5'10"	204	So.				Dallas, TX
Specialists					Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
20	Allen, Caleb	P/K	6'0"	169	Jr.				Arlington, TX
62	Weeks, Jonathan	LS	5'10"	258	Sr.				Glendale, AZ

Head Coach: Guy Morriss • Record at School: 15-31 (4 years) • Career Record: 24-45 (6 years)

Offensive Coordinator: Lee Hays • Defensive Coordinator: Larry Hoefer • Waco, Texas • Floyd-Casey Stadium (50,000)

2006 INDIVIDUAL STATS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.
Shawn Bell	383	241	2,582	19	10
Blake Szymanski	121	64	689	4	7

Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Paul Mosley	100	479	4.8	6
Brandon Whitaker	41	158	3.9	1

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Dominique Zeigler	54	741	13.7	3
Trent Shelton	53	802	15.1	8
Brandon Whitaker	30	192	6.4	1
Thomas White	26	372	14.3	2

Kicking: Ryan Havens, 11-14 FGs, 32-33 XPs, 65 points

Tackles: Joe Pawelek, 86; Nick Moore, 75

Sacks: Geoff Nelson, 2.5

Interceptions: C.J. Wilson, 4

Returning Players in Bold



OUTSIDE THE HUDDLE

A young man's game? It didn't take his teammates long to call 25-year-old quarterback Michael Machen, "Old man." A former minor league baseball prospect with the Atlanta Braves and Baltimore Orioles organizations, Machen has made the rounds with stops at Alabama, Coffeyville (Kan.) Community College and Kent State. "Hopefully I can bring some maturity and some experience that maybe some of these guys don't have," Machen says.

From Iraq to Waco Machen's not the only old man on the team. Junior defensive end Leon Freeman, a transfer from Mesa (Ariz.) Community College, turns 25 in October. But his side trip had nothing to do with baseball. A native of Vero Beach, Fla., Freeman enlisted in the U.S. Army right out of high school and spent nearly six months in Iraq with Bravo Company 141. After serving a three-year stint, Freeman received an honorable discharge in 2005 as a specialist.

It's a family affair Not only does the 2007 recruiting class include the sons of three former Baylor All-Americans, Baylor's made a habit of bringing in legacies. In addition to incoming freshmen Matt Singletary, V.J. McElroy and Chris Francis, this year's roster includes senior cornerback Braelon Davis, sophomore guard Sam Sledge, redshirt freshman receiver Ben Randle and sophomore running back Tony Anderson, a transfer from Division II Southeast Missouri. Dads Alfred Anderson, Ervin Randle and Bruce Davis were teammates in the early 1980s, while David Sledge was an offensive lineman in the 1970s. One of the top 2008 prospects is Brenham receiver Lester Ward Jr. The son of former Baylor linebacker Lester Ward, he already has offers from Baylor and Nebraska.

From under center to ... A former high school quarterback at Barbe High School in Lake Charles, La., Mike Miller's come full circle. The three-year letterman at tight end and inside receiver, Miller switched to center in the spring and was listed No. 2 behind J.D. Walton. The 6'3", 273-pound Miller put on 30 pounds to make the move inside.

2006 RESULTS

Record: 4-8 (3-5 Big 12)

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Att.
S. 3	TCU	L	7-17	42,733
S. 9	Northwestern State	W	47-10	31,125
S. 16	at Washington State	L	15-17	41,358
S. 23	Army	(ot) L	20-27	36,218
S. 30	Kansas State	W	17- 3	30,752
O. 7	at Colorado	(ot) W	34-31	47,065
O. 14	at Texas	L	31-63	88,966
O. 21	Kansas	W	36-35	36,125
O. 28	Texas A&M	L	21-31	51,385
N. 4	at Texas Tech	L	21-55	51,303
N. 11	at Oklahoma State	L	24-66	35,430
N. 18	Oklahoma	L	10-36	31,221

Layne Murdoch

Brandon Whitaker

2007 RECRUITING

This class includes the sons of three All-Americans who played under former Baylor coach Grant Teaff — linebackers Mike Singletary and James Francis and safety Vann McElroy. Defensive end Matt Singletary, linebacker Chris Francis and safety V.J. McElroy will have the added pressure of playing at a school that has already immortalized their dads with "legend" banners at Floyd Casey Stadium. "I'm going to hug Coach Teaff's neck for recruiting the daddies here," Guy Morriss says. Tapping into his NFL connections, Morriss also signed the sons of former NFL players Cliff Odom (cornerback Clifton Odom) and Ken Coffey (safety Elliot Coffey). Baylor also went for more immediate help, signing five junior college transfers and quarterback Mike Machen from Kent State. Machen enrolled in January along with quarterback John David Weed, guard James Barnard and defensive end Leon Freeman, while receiver Eddy Newton and safety Ray Sims had to finish out the spring semester. "We need all these guys to play," Morriss says. "One of the things that I told the staff was that if we don't think he can start for us next fall, then let's don't waste his time and waste ours." While the offensive line was an obvious focus — the Bears signed three consensus state Top 100 prospects for the line — there was not one running back in the class. Morriss says next year's class is loaded with backs, and "we're already looking at the '08 kids."

Romie Blaylock	WR	5'11"	170	Cedar Hill, TX
Named All-Area track and field by the <i>Dallas Morning News</i> .				
James Barnard	T	6'4"	285	Overland Park, KS
Transfer from Coffeyville (Kan.) CC. Named second-team All-Kansas Jayhawk CCC.				
Shea Brewster	K	6'0"	160	College Station, TX
Ranked No. 11 kicker in the country by Rivals.com.				
Krys Buerck	WR	6'1"	175	Mesquite, TX
Named Class 5A District 12 MVP, with 48 catches for 970 yards and 12 TDs in '06.				
Elliot Coffey	S	6'0"	195	Sugar Land, TX
Named second-team All-Greater Houston Area by the <i>Houston Chronicle</i> .				
Ryan Douglass	DE	6'3"	225	Leander, TX
Named Class 5A District 14 and <i>Hill Country News</i> Lineman of the Year in '06.				
Derek Epperson	P	6'3"	215	Southlake, TX
Named first-team Class 5A District 5. Averaged 43 yards per punt as a senior.				
Chris Francis	LB	5'11"	216	Cedar Hill, TX
Named Class 5A Defensive Player of the Year and first-team Class 5A All-State. Recorded 212 tackles, five sacks, three forced fumbles and one INT in '06. Father, James, was All-SWC linebacker at Baylor and played in NFL from 1990-99.				
Leon Freeman	DE	6'2"	235	Vero Beach, FL
Transfer from Mesa (Ariz.) CC. Ranked No. 75 JUCO prospect by Rivals.com.				
Courtney Green	G	6'4"	285	Corsicana, TX
Named second-team Class 4A All-State by <i>The AP</i> and TSWA.				
Hunter Hightower	T	6'5"	255	Richardson, TX
Ranked No. 69 in Dallas-Fort Worth Area by the <i>Dallas Morning News</i> .				
Antonio Johnson	DE	6'1"	215	Waco, TX
Named Defensive Player of the Year by <i>Waco Tribune Herald</i> .				

RECRUITING BREAKDOWN

By Position	By State
Defensive Linemen	6 Texas
Wide Receivers	5 California
Offensive Linemen.....	5 Alabama.....
Defensive Backs	5 Florida
Quarterbacks.....	2 Kansas
Linebackers	2 Louisiana.....
Kickers.....	1
Punters	1
Athletes	1

John Jones	G	6'5"	305	Cedar Hill, TX
Named second-team Class 5A All-State by TSWA. Allowed only one sack in '06.				
Rex McDougald	DT	6'3"	290	Iola, TX
Named first-team Class 1A All-State by the TSWA as a junior and senior.				
V.J. McElroy	ATH	5'11"	180	Uvalde, TX
Father, Vann, owns Baylor career INT record and played in NFL from 1982-90.				
Michael Machen	QB	6'6"	235	Mobile, AL
Drafted by Atlanta Braves in 2000. Played three years in minors. Attended Alabama in 2003, Coffeyville (Kan.) CC in 2004 and Kent State in 2005 — throwing for 2,078 yards, with 54.8 completion percentage, and 11 TDs in 10 games.				
Anthony Morgan	G	6'4"	315	Lancaster, TX
Named second-team Class 4A All-State by <i>The AP</i> .				
Eddy Newton	WR	6'2"	210	Santa Monica, CA
Transfer from W. Los Angeles (Calif.) College. Had 779 yards and seven TDs in '06.				

SPOTLIGHT ON...EARL PATIN

Linebacker • 6'2" • 230 • Baton Rouge, LA

Gary Joe Kinne went to the inaugural East meets West Challenge at Disney's Wide World of Sports Complex in Orlando, Fla., as a dad. The Baylor linebackers coach was there to watch his son, quarterback G.J. Kinne, a University of Texas-bound recruit. But he couldn't help but notice a 6'2", 230-pound linebacker from Baton Rouge, La., named Earl Patin. "He was the best defensive player there," Kinne says. "I thought it was maybe a shot in the dark. But at the time, to be honest, I truly was being a dad. I was just talking to his mom and dad and getting to know them, and I kind of built a relationship with them." A four-star recruit, Patin was ranked by Rivals.com as the 13th-best prospect in the state of Louisiana. The two-time Class 1A all-state pick had offers from Nebraska, Alabama, Clemson, Florida, Ole Miss and West Virginia, made unofficial visits to LSU and Auburn and was also getting interest from Miami. But ultimately, Patin liked the idea of getting early playing time at Baylor. "They just said they really need me," says Patin, who had 144 tackles and five sacks as a senior for a 10-4 team at Southern University Lab School. "I've got an opportunity to get some playing time my freshman year, and that's what hooked me in." Baylor has starting linebackers Joe Pawelek and Nick Moore returning, along with top backups Antonio Jones and Ben Hixson. But depth is definitely an issue. "I think he sees opportunity here," head coach Guy Morriss says. "He wants to get on the field as a freshman, and certainly we think he's got the ability to do that."

Clifton Odom	CB	5'11"	180	Arlington, TX
Had two INTs and one kick return TD in '06. Father, Cliff, played in NFL from 1980-93.				
Larry Rosebud	CB	5'10"	170	Mesquite, TX
Ranked No. 52 cornerback in the nation by Rivals.com.				
Zac Scotton	DT	6'6"	245	Houston, TX
Had 55 tackles, five sacks, one blocked punt and one defensive TD as a senior.				
Ray Sims	S	6'0"	210	Corsicana, TX
Transfer from Navarro (TX) College. Had 72 tackles, 1.5 sacks and one INT in '06.				
Matt Singletary	DE	6'4"	215	San Jose, CA
Father, Mike, was three-time All-American at Baylor from 1977-80 and played with the Chicago Bears from 1981-92 — as a two-time Defensive Player of the Year and Super Bowl XX winner before induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in '98.				
Chris Tuck	WR	6'5"	197	Mineola, TX
Recorded 27 catches for 357 yards and six TDs as a junior.				
Barry Valcin	CB	5'11"	177	Port Arthur, TX
Had 96 tackles, four INTs, three fumble recoveries and two forced fumbles in '06.				
John Weed	QB	6'4"	225	Houston, TX
Transfer from Tyler (TX) JC. Ranked No. 6 JUCO quarterback by JCGridiron.com.				
Stacy Williams	WR	6'0"	180	Houston, TX
Rushed for 873 yards, on 7.9 yards per carry, and eight TDs as a senior.				

A QUICK LOOK AT THE SOONERS

The Sooners return 16 starters from their Big 12 Championship Game lineup. They must be considered a contender to earn another conference crown and a BCS bowl bid. But much of Oklahoma's success will hinge on finding a quarterback capable of making the transition from unknown to unquestioned leader. There's enough talent at every other position that a caretaker at quarterback might just do. Coaches are asking simply that the quarterback not get them beat, instead safely delivering the ball into the hands of wide receiver **Malcolm Kelly**, tight end **Jermaine Gresham** and a cast of running backs led by veteran **Allen Patrick** and dazzling newcomer **DeMarco Murray**. At linebacker, the hot spot on defense, there's an urgency to get **Ryan Reynolds** healthy and **Mike Reed** comfortable. Youngsters like **DeMarcus Granger** and **Gerald McCoy** should upgrade defensive tackle, but pass-rushing ends are needed. The secondary is among the best in the country. OU can win games with its kicking game. An early home date with Miami will be a test for the young QB of choice. Otherwise, outside of the annual clash with Texas, the schedule is favorable with Texas A&M, Missouri and Oklahoma State all visiting Norman.



Reggie Smith

2007 SCHEDULE

S. 1	North Texas	W
S. 8	Miami	W
S. 15	Utah State	W
S. 21	at Tulsa	W
S. 29	at Colorado	W
O. 6	#Texas	*
O. 13	Missouri	W
O. 20	at Iowa State	W
O. 27	Oklahoma State	W
N. 3	Texas A&M	W
N. 10	Baylor	W
N. 17	at Texas Tech	W
	#Dallas, TX	

*Games in bold represent games crucial to the season.
W or L indicates a projected win or loss

Smith/Layne Murdoch, Kelly: Chris Covatta

Bob Stoops sounds as confident as ever, pointing out the overflow of returning talent on this, his ninth, Oklahoma squad. The Sooners return 16 starters who took the field for their Big 12 title game win over Nebraska. Among them: four across the offensive line, every receiver and running back **Allen Patrick**, who subbed so superbly when **Adrian Peterson** was missing with a broken collarbone. Beyond them, young playmakers are pushing for playing time in as competitive an atmosphere as Norman has seen since the **Barry Switzer** days. On defense, seven starters are back.

Indeed, the Sooners are built to win. And win big. And win now. Except at quarterback. Thank you, **Rhett Bomar**.

This time, there's no veteran to ride to the rescue, as **Paul Thompson** did when **Bomar** was dismissed from the team last August for violating NCAA rules. The Sooners must count on a kid. Or maybe even a former junior college transfer recruited solely to be **Bomar's** backup.

And still, Stoops is counting on the same factor — surrounding talent — that aided **Thompson** and kept pressure off the quarterback spot and on enemy defenses.

"That will be the case even more so," **Stoops** says. "We'll be much more experienced — line, backs, tight ends, receivers — around that position. No matter who it will be, there's enough pieces that our future will be OK."

Quarterbacks So who will it be under center? The competition carries into fall, with none of the three distinguishing himself as a deserving starter so far. **Joey Halzle**, a junior, played a handful of snaps as **Thompson's** backup, good for all of two attempted passes. Redshirt freshman **Sam Bradford**, strong-armed and more accurate, seemed to push past **Halzle** in the spring, although coaches refused to commit to as much as a pecking order. They may be waiting for touted recruit **Keith Nichol**, a true freshman who enrolled in January and went through spring, to keep developing and work his way into the picture. Whoever gets the nod will be asked more not to lose games than win them.

Running Backs **Peterson** ran off early to the NFL, and yet, the Sooners appear even more loaded at running back. **Patrick** ran for 761 yards, produced four 100-yard games and showed star potential after stepping in when injury sidelined **Peterson** for seven games. He's more than capable, if he can hold off hungry youngsters **DeMarco Murray** and **Chris Brown**. Maybe the best combination of speed and power, **Patrick** has been careless with the ball at times. Still, he wants to be **Option A**. "I've got the most experience out

of all of them," **Patrick** says. "I've got the most carries." **Murray**, a redshirt freshman, was the star of spring, rushing for 327 yards and four touchdowns on 29 carries (11.3 yards per carry). He's fast and elusive and a natural receiver. OU coaches want to get **Murray** the ball in open spaces and may play him in the slot. **Brown**, a sophomore, isn't flashy — he just seems to churn out positive yards with every carry. Another redshirt freshman, **Mossis Madu**, was slowed by an ankle sprain in the spring yet offers speed and the ability to fill the slot, like **Murray**. "We're gonna need all four of them," **Stoops** says. "And we'll play a bunch of them and keep them fresh."

NUMBERS GAME

637

The Sooners have been ranked in the AP poll 637 weeks. That ranks No. 4 nationally and No. 1 in the Big 12.

Receivers One major comfort for whoever wins the quarterback job: wide receiver **Malcolm Kelly** catches almost anything thrown within reach — and some beyond. With 95 receptions, **Kelly** is off to the best two-year start by a receiver in school history. **Kelly** was named second-team All-Big 12 as a sophomore last fall and should be an All-America candidate this season. He missed spring workouts following minor knee surgery but should be full speed for two-a-days. The Sooners return two more regulars in juniors **Juaquin Iglesias** and **Manuel Johnson**, yet both will have to fight to keep their jobs. Inconsistency has plagued both in the past, and sophomores **Adron Tennell** and **Brandon Caleb** are big and physical wideouts making a case for playing time. At tight end, **Joe Jon Finley**, **Brody Eldridge** and **Jermaine Gresham** all started at times last season. **Finley** is a dependable senior, while **Eldridge** is a devastating blocker. **Gresham**, however, is the downfield threat as a receiver. And he could be on the verge of a breakout.

Offensive Linemen Billed as a question mark entering last season, OU's offensive line is now among the nation's best. That's a reputation earned by paving the way for 100-yard games by three different backs and regularly keeping **Thompson** upright and out of danger. **George "Duke" Robinson** may be the best of the bunch as a power-blocking force at left guard. But there's not a weak link among a crew that features five players who started at least seven games. Guard **Brandon Walker** and center **Jon Cooper** combined for 27 starts. The Sooners added a top junior college prospect in massive **Phil Loadholt**,



Oklahoma WR
Malcolm Kelly

who may be the biggest lineman ever recruited to the school at 6'8", 360 pounds. There's heavy competition throughout the two-deep. And only one senior in the group. "I don't think anybody would argue with the quality of players we have there," Stoops says.

Defensive Linemen The top three ends must be replaced, creating concern as to who's left to rush the passer. Alonzo Dotson and John Williams have had their moments, but both have had issues in the past that prevented them from playing a major role. It's mandatory that both remain healthy and productive, with limited experience and depth beyond them. The tackles should be improved, with starters Cory Bennett and Steven Coleman back and young stars developing in DeMarcus Granger, Gerald McCoy and Adrian Taylor. Position coach Jackie Shipp usually gets the most out of his crew. And with Granger, McCoy and Taylor, he has an athletic and powerful trio to work with.

Linebackers The Sooners exited spring unsettled at linebacker, mostly due to an injury

to Ryan Reynolds. It was the second straight spring in which Reynolds tore knee ligaments, clouding plans, although this injury is not thought to be as serious as the one that kept him out all of 2006. As the projected leader of the unit, Reynolds' swift and strong return could be critical. There was already rebuilding taking place, with leading tacklers Rufus Alexander and Zach Latimer moving on. Junior college transfer Mike Reed, a mid-term enrollee, is a rugged tackler, but the transition to Division I-A has seen him get lost at times. Curtis Lofton is capable of playing any of the three positions. "You don't know who you can trust right now," says defensive coordinator Brent Venables. "I've known for the last three years I could trust Rufus."

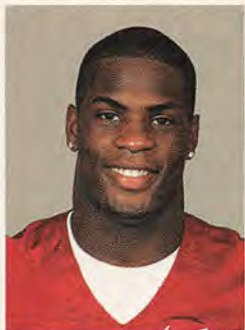


Defensive Backs Look here for the strength of the defense. Reggie Smith, moving back to corner from strong safety, is an All-America candidate who should thrive in the role he likes best. Playing corner also allows him to be more of a playmaker. Free safety Nic Harris is the leading returning tackler. Coaches like to walk him up close to the line in their nickel scheme, allowing him to attack the quarterback or just make plays in space. After two injury-plagued seasons, cornerback Marcus Walker reminded all of the promise that prompted a pull of his redshirt as a true freshman in 2004. Strong safety looms as a position of concern. Coaches have tried several players at the spot yet haven't settled on any. Former cornerback D.J. Wolfe, who played well after a late spring switch, is next in line. Darien Williams, returning from knee surgery, offers help at either safety slot.

Specialists Garrett Hartley was one of three finalists for the Lou Groza Award after hitting 19-of-20 field goal attempts a year ago. He's a threat from long range, as well as reliable for putting the ball deep on kickoffs. The Sooners have two quality punters in Michael Cohen and Mike Knall and employ them both, with Knall excelling on pooch punts. Smith is dangerous returning punts and kickoffs.

RISING STAR

A nagging toe injury prevented running back **DeMarco Murray** from showing his skills in his first fall on campus. But healthy and seizing opportunity in the spring, Murray launched himself into the heart of the competition to replace Adrian Peterson. He's fast



and elusive and perhaps primed to become the next great OU running back.

SCOUTING THE SOONERS

Opposing coaches size up Oklahoma: "You don't really know what they are going to be like at quarterback, but it's a pretty safe bet that they will be steady and in the thick of the race for the conference title. They are certainly not unbeatable, but the one thing they rarely ever do is beat themselves. That's a real credit to Bob Stoops and his staff; they are always prepared and well-coached. ... Adrian Peterson is gone, but he missed a bunch of games last year, too. And I really like that Allen Patrick kid. He is really impressive. So is (wide receiver) Malcolm Kelly, and their offensive line is very solid and physical. ... Defensively, they just don't make many mistakes. They don't breakdown very often, so they are going to force you to make long, sustained drives, which is hard to do. ... I'm not brokenhearted that Rufus Alexander is gone. He was special. They are usually very good in stopping the run, but that may be the best way to attack them this year because their secondary is filled with so many great athletes. ... Ever since Stoops has been there, they have really been the model of consistency."



KEY SOONERS

Malcolm Kelly, WR

Catches anything thrown in his vicinity, key with a new quarterback due.

Reggie Smith, CB

Moved from strong safety to cornerback, where he should be more of a playmaker.

Nic Harris, FS

Top returning tackler and interception leader.

Marcus Walker, CB

Shook off history of injuries last year to re-emerge as a top cover corner.

Allen Patrick, RB

Kept the Sooner running game in high gear when Adrian Peterson was hurt.

KEY LOSSES

Adrian Peterson, RB

The school's No. 3 all-time rushing leader made defenses account for him.

Rufus Alexander, LB

Provided personality and production (leading tackler) to the defense.

Paul Thompson, QB

Underrated in OU's Big 12 title run.

C.J. Ah You, DE

Best pass rusher was also popular off-the-field presence.

Chris Messner, LT

First team All-Big 12 pick offered stability.

PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE (7)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 4	Malcolm Kelly	Jr.
WR 1	Manuel Johnson	Jr.
WR 9	Juaquin Iglesias	Jr.
LT 79	Phil Loadholt	Jr.
LG 72	George Robinson	Jr.
C 50	Jon Cooper	Jr.
RG 74	Brian Simmons	So.
RT 76	Brannndon Braxton	Jr.
TE 19	Joe Jon Finley	Sr.
QB 15	Joey Halzle	Jr.
RB 23	Allen Patrick	Sr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 80	Adron Tennell	So.
WR 8	Brandon Caleb	So.
WR 81	Fred Strong	Jr.
LT 70	Cory Brandon	Fr.
LG 77	Sherrone Moore	Sr.
C 75	Chase Beeler	So.
RG 73	Brandon Walker	Jr.
RT 71	Trent Williams	So.
TE 18	Jermaine Gresham	So.
QB 14	Sam Bradford	Fr.
RB 7	DeMarco Murray	Fr.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE (7)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 91	Alonzo Dotson	Sr.
DT 96	DeMarcus Granger	So.
DT 97	Cory Bennett	Jr.
DE 98	John Williams	Sr.
SLB 16	Lewis Baker	Sr.
MLB 10	Mike Reed	Jr.
WLB 40	Curtis Lofton	Jr.
CB 3	Reggie Smith	Jr.
CB 24	Marcus Walker	Sr.
SS 25	D.J. Wolfe	Sr.
FS 5	Nic Harris	Jr.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 33	Auston English	So.
DT 93	Gerald McCoy	Fr.
DT 90	Steven Coleman	Sr.
DE 44	Jeremy Beal	Fr.
SLB 51	Demarrio Pleasant	Sr.
MLB 8	Ryan Reynolds	So.
WLB 48	Brandon Crow	Fr.
CB 15	Dominique Franks	Fr.
CB 11	Lendy Holmes	Jr.
SS 22	Keenan Clayton	So.
FS 41	Darien Williams	Sr.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos. No.	Name	Class
K 10	Garrett Hartley	Sr.
P 31	Michael Cohen	Sr.
KR 3	Reggie Smith	Jr.
PR 3	Reggie Smith	Jr.

Returning Starters in Bold

2007 OKLAHOMA ROSTER

Quarterbacks	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
14 Bradford, Sam	QB	6'5"	197	Fr.	Oklahoma City, OK
15 Halzle, Joey	QB	6'3"	198	Jr.	Huntington Bch., CA
16 McEachern, Hays	QB	5'11"	180	Jr.	Austin, TX
6 Nichol, Keith	QB	6'2"	180	Fr.	Lowell, MI
5 Nimmo, John	QB	6'1"	190	Fr.	Ponca City, OK
Running Backs	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
20 Anderson, Rocky	RB	5'11"	187	Fr.	Concordia, KS
29 Brown, Chris	RB	5'10"	190	So.	Alexandria, LA
34 Clapp, Matt	FB	6'2"	244	Jr.	Phoenix, AZ
41 Gove, Derek	RB	5'9"	185	Fr.	Carrollton, TX
21 Gutierrez, Jacob	RB	5'6"	187	Sr.	San Antonio, TX
17 Madu, Mossis	RB	5'11"	190	Fr.	Norman, OK
7 Murray, DeMarco	RB	6'0"	191	Fr.	Las Vegas, NV
23 Patrick, Allen	RB	6'0"	191	Sr.	Conway, SC
49 Pleasant, Ian	FB	5'10"	215	Sr.	Alexandria, VA
Receivers	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
84 Allgood, Ryan	TE	6'4"	245	Fr.	Grove, OK
27 Bothun, Garrett	WR	5'9"	173	Sr.	Rowlett, TX
8 Caleb, Brandon	WR	6'1"	196	So.	Atlanta, GA
84 Chaney, Quentin	WR	6'4"	213	Jr.	Tulsa, OK
39 Cox, Collin	WR	6'2"	187	So.	Rowlett, TX
83 Eldridge, Brody	TE	6'5"	258	So.	La Cygne, KS
19 Finley, Joe Jon	TE	6'6"	260	Sr.	Arlington, TX
18 Gresham, Jermaine	TE	6'6"	250	So.	Ardmore, OK
9 Iglesias, Juaquin	WR	6'1"	201	Jr.	Killeen, TX
1 Johnson, Manuel	WR	5'11"	177	Jr.	Gilmer, TX
4 Kelly, Malcolm	WR	6'4"	217	Jr.	Longview, TX
88 Mensik, Eric	TE	6'5"	246	Fr.	Rosenberg, TX
81 Strong, Fred	WR	6'1"	197	Jr.	Austin, TX
80 Tennell, Adron	WR	6'4"	184	So.	Irving, TX
14 Whitson, Carter	WR	5'11"	190	So.	Shawnee, OK
Offensive Linemen	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
75 Beeler, Chase	C	6'3"	276	So.	Jenks, OK
70 Brandon, Cory	T	6'7"	271	Fr.	Corsicana, TX
76 Braxton, Brannndon	T	6'6"	312	Jr.	Youngstown, OH
64 Cooke, Kody	OL	6'4"	315	Fr.	Enid, OK
50 Cooper, Jon	C	6'2"	285	Jr.	Fort Collins, CO
59 Howard, Zach	OL	6'0"	250	Fr.	Shawnee, OK
63 Hughey, Noah	OL	6'3"	270	So.	El Reno, OK
79 Loadholt, Phil	T	6'8"	360	Jr.	Fountain, CO
77 Moore, Sherrone	G	6'3"	297	Sr.	Derby, KS
72 Robinson, George	G	6'5"	330	Jr.	Atlanta, GA
74 Simmons, Brian	G	6'4"	293	So.	Raleigh, NC
73 Walker, Brandon	G	6'3"	306	Jr.	Detroit, MI
71 Williams, Trent	T	6'5"	321	So.	Longview, TX
Defensive Linemen	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
44 Beal, Jeremy	DE	6'4"	254	Fr.	Carrollton, TX
97 Bennett, Cory	DT	6'2"	278	Jr.	San Antonio, TX
78 Blackard, Billy	DT	6'3"	275	So.	Claremore, OK
90 Coleman, Steven	DT	6'4"	299	Sr.	Dallas, TX
95 Davis, Alan	DE	6'2"	253	Jr.	Colleyville, TX
Linebackers	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
16 Baker, Lewis	SLB	6'2"	210	Sr.	Carrollton, TX
7 Box, Austin	LB	6'3"	220	Fr.	Enid, OK
46 Bread, T.C.	LB	6'3"	225	Fr.	Norman, OK
48 Crow, Brandon	WLB	6'1"	220	Fr.	Comanche, OK
57 Hesse, Brock	LB	5'10"	204	So.	Mesquite, TX
40 Lofton, Curtis	WLB	6'0"	235	Jr.	Kingfisher, OK
51 Pleasant, Demarrio	SLB	6'2"	231	Sr.	Lewisville, TX
10 Reed, Mike	MLB	6'1"	250	Jr.	Vero Beach, FL
8 Reynolds, Ryan	MLB	6'1"	237	So.	Las Vegas, NV
30 Robinson, Lamont	LB	6'0"	227	So.	Salem, NJ
Defensive Backs	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
26 Bowers, Brett	DB	6'0"	203	Jr.	Jacksonville, FL
18 Carter, Cortney	DB	5'10"	180	Jr.	Dallas, TX
20 Carter, Quinton	DB	6'1"	190	So.	Las Vegas, NV
22 Clayton, Keenan	SS	6'1"	210	So.	Sulphur Springs, TX
43 Croslin, Chris	DB	6'0"	205	Fr.	Noble, OK
15 Franks, Dominique	CB	5'11"	183	Fr.	Tulsa, OK
5 Harris, Nic	FS	6'3"	226	Jr.	Alexandria, LA
13 Hayes, Michael	DB	5'10"	190	Jr.	Altus, OK
11 Holmes, Lendy	CB	6'1"	196	Jr.	Dallas, TX
2 Jackson, Brian	DB	6'1"	190	So.	De Soto, TX
36 James, Johnnie	DB	6'1"	190	Fr.	Jenks, OK
4 Nelson, Jonathan	DB	5'11"	176	Fr.	Mansfield, TX
3 Smith, Reggie	CB	6'1"	197	Jr.	Edmond, OK
24 Walker, Marcus	CB	5'11"	192	Sr.	Waco, TX
41 Williams, Darien	FS	6'0"	197	Sr.	Mesquite, TX
25 Wolfe, D.J.	SS	6'0"	196	Sr.	Lawton, OK
Specialists	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
31 Cohen, Michael	P	6'0"	205	Sr.	Houston, TX
10 Hartley, Garrett	K	5'9"	198	Sr.	Southlake, TX
55 Johnson, Kyle	LS	6'3"	230	Jr.	Konawa, OK
13 Knall, Mike	P	5'9"	178	Jr.	Scottsdale, AZ
37 Moreland, Matthew	K	6'1"	195	Fr.	Tulsa, OK
52 Shaw, Derek	LS	6'1"	210	So.	Sand Springs, OK

Head Coach: Bob Stoops • Record at School: 86-19 (8 years) • Career Record: 86-19 (8 years)

Co-Offensive Coordinators: Kevin Wilson, Kevin Sumlin • Co-Defensive Coordinators: Brent Venables, Bobby Jack Wright

Norman, Okla. • Oklahoma Memorial Stadium (82,112)

2006 INDIVIDUAL STATS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.
Paul Thompson	336	204	2,667	22	11
Joey Halzle	2	1	15	0	0

Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Adrian Peterson	188	1,012	5.4	12
Allen Patrick	169	761	4.5	4
Chris Brown	70	343	4.9	6

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Malcolm Kelly	62	993	16.0	10
Juaquin Iglesias	41	514	12.5	2
Manuel Johnson	36	378	10.5	3

Kicking: Garrett Hartley, 19-20 FGs, 49-50 XPs, 106 points

Tackles: Rufus Alexander, 118; Zach Latimer, 84

Sacks: C.J. Ah You, 4.0

Interceptions: Nic Harris, 4

Returning Players in Bold



OUTSIDE THE HUDDLE

Path not taken Sooners co-offensive coordinator Kevin Sumlin had an opportunity to take over the offense at Miami but opted to stay on Bob Stoops' staff instead. Sumlin will get a chance to see what he missed when the Hurricanes visit Norman on Sept. 8.

Seeking toughness The strong safety spot has been a source of concern for the Sooners, even forcing the move of Reggie Smith from corner to stabilize the position last fall. Former corner D.J. Wolfe is getting a look now. Finding some toughness for the position is of primary importance for secondary coach Bobby Jack Wright, whose spring frustration was evident after one typical play resulted in a missed tackle and a big gain for DeMarco Murray. "The guy who was in there at the time, went in there and fainted. And DeMarco ripped it off for big yards. You can't have those fainters in there," Wright says.

New BMO The offensive line already had a pair of wide loads in 6'5", 330-pound George Robinson and 6'6", 312-pound Brannndon Braxton. But the Sooners expanded the position, so to speak, bringing in 6'8", 360-pound Phil Loadholt from junior college. "He's a monster," says offensive coordinator Kevin Wilson. "And for a man that size, a real athlete."

Sooner slam OU coaches go into prospective recruits homes armed with travel promises of college football's most desirable destinations — Phoenix, Pasadena, New Orleans and Miami. With their appearance in January's Fiesta Bowl, the Sooners completed a tour of the BCS bowls in a span of five years. They called it the Sooner Slam. Miami (2001-04) is the only other program to pull off the feat since the BCS system began in 1998.

2006 RESULTS

Record: 11-3 (7-1 Big 12)

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Att.
S. 2	UAB	W	24-17	84,555
S. 9	Washington	W	37-20	84,577
S. 16	at Oregon	L	33-34	59,269
S. 23	Middle Tennessee	W	59-0	84,326
O. 7	@Texas	L	10-28	76,260
O. 14	Iowa State	W	34-9	84,152
O. 21	Colorado	W	24-3	84,443
O. 28	at Missouri	W	26-10	62,045
N. 4	at Texas A&M	W	17-16	85,697
N. 11	Texas Tech	W	34-24	85,313
N. 18	at Baylor	W	36-10	31,221
N. 25	at Oklahoma State	W	27-21	42,819
D. 2	*Nebraska	W	21-7	80,031
J. 1	#Boise State	(ot) L	42-43	73,719
	@Dallas, TX			
	*Big 12 Championship Game			
	#Fiesta Bowl			

Nic Harris

2007 RECRUITING

The Sooners signed 20 and addressed their most pressing needs, adding a top quarterback in Keith Nichol and an impact middle linebacker in Mike Reed. Both enrolled in January, as did offensive tackle Phil Loadholt, giving all a chance to compete for immediate playing time. Reed and Loadholt, among the top junior college prospects at their positions, should start. And if Nichol can progress in learning the playbook, he could enter the picture at quarterback. Five of the players signed were offensive linemen, beefing up a position that lacked depth a year ago. Three defensive ends were added, with Frank Alexander the headliner among a trio needed to fill one of the spots hardest hit by graduation. The Sooners secured Alexander and linebacker Travis Lewis on Signing Day, putting a late charge into the class. OU hit Texas for two top defensive back prospects in Desmond Jackson and Jamell Fleming. The Sooners corralled most of the top talent at home, including linebacker Austin Box, considered by most as Oklahoma's top prospect. They also found a kicker for the future, getting Jimmy Stevens, who set the national high school record with 50 field goals and was named All-USA by USA Today.

Frank Alexander DE 6'5" 235 Baton Rouge, LA

Ranked No. 8 weakside defensive end and No. 10 prospect in Louisiana by Rivals.com. Recorded 76 tackles and 13 sacks as a senior.

David Anderson DE 6'5" 220 Lawton, OK

Named first-team Class 5A by Oklahoma Coaches Association. Recorded 82 tackles, 11 sacks and two forced fumbles as a senior.

Austin Box LB 6'3" 220 Enid, OK

Ranked No. 1 prospect in Oklahoma and No. 3 outside linebacker in nation by Rivals. Named Defensive Player of the Year by *The Daily Oklahoman* and MVP of the American Legion Tournament in '06. Threw for 1,938 yards and 13 TDs; rushed for 1,086 yards and 15 TDs on offense; had 71 tackles and three INTs on defense as a senior.

Ryan Broyles WR 6'0" 170 Norman, OK

Ranked No. 4 prospect in Oklahoma by Rivals.com. Named first-team Class 6A All-State by *The Daily Oklahoman* and *Tulsa World*. Had 44 catches for 908 yards and eight TDs; rushed for 345 yards and 12 TDs; registered 73 tackles and six INTs as a senior.

Jonte Bumpus DE 6'4" 220 Muskogee, OK

Ranked No. 8 prospect in Oklahoma and No. 30 weakside defensive end in the country by Rivals.com. Had 92 tackles and nine sacks as a senior.

Kody Cooke OG 6'4" 315 Enid, OK

Named first-team Class 6A All-State by *The Daily Oklahoman* and *Tulsa World* in '06. Ranked No. 14 prospect in Oklahoma by Rivals.com.

Jamell Fleming CB 5'11" 187 Arlington, TX

Ranked No. 12 cornerback in the nation and No. 35 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com. Named first-team Class 4A All-State by APSE as a senior.

Jason Hannan C 6'3" 270 Waxahachie, TX

Ranked No. 1 center in the country and No. 23 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com. Named second-team Class 4A All-State in '06. Did not allow a sack during HS career.

Desmond Jackson S 5'11" 187 Seguin, TX

Ranked No. 14 safety in the nation by Rivals.com. Recorded 86 tackles, three INTs, three kick return TDs and two punt return TDs as a senior.

Travis Lewis LB 6'2" 220 San Antonio, TX

Ranked No. 10 middle linebacker in the country by Scout.com and No. 37 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com. Rushed for 1,436 yards and nine TDs as a senior.

Phil Loadholt OT 6'8" 360 Fountain, CO

Transfer from Garden City (Kan.) CC. Named Jayhawk Conference Lineman of the Year as a JUCO sophomore and Colorado Springs Area Player of the Year as a HS senior. Ranked No. 20 JUCO prospect by Rivals.com.

Keith Nichol QB 6'2" 180 Lowell, MI

Named Michigan Gatorade Player of the Year. Ranked No. 4 prospect in Michigan and No. 6 dual-threat quarterback in the nation by Rivals.com. Threw for 2,225 yards and 31 TDs; rushed for 1,075 yards and 19 TDs as a senior.

SPOTLIGHT ON... KEITH NICHOL

Quarterback • 6'2" • 180 • Lowell, Mich.

Keith Nichol was the homegrown kid with the big-time credentials who might have rescued John L. Smith at Michigan State. Smith will never know. Long committed to the Spartans, Nichol apprehensively re-opened his recruitment when Michigan State canned Smith in the offseason. Swiftly, Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops and his quarterbacks coach Josh Heupel opened Nichol's eyes with their opening at quarterback, the one void in what otherwise would be considered a national championship contender. Other schools tried, too, but none had what the Sooners offered: immediate opportunity to lead a potential title team. "You can't pass it up as a quarterback," Nichol says. "You grow up dreaming of that situation. There's not a better spot in the country."

Nichol even increased his chances at leading the Sooners in '07, enrolling in January and participating in spring drills. Fed just bits of the playbook, he was brought along slowly. But a strong summer of studying could thrust him back into a picture that reveals the Sooners are already committed to playing a quarterback with no tangible experience.

Sam Proctor ATH 6'0" 202 Pearland, TX

Ranked No. 35 athlete in the country and No. 44 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com. Rushed for 1,658 yards and 19 TDs as a senior.

Mike Reed LB 6'1" 250 Vero Beach, FL

Transfer from Yuba (Calif.) College. Named Bay Valley Conference MVP. Ranked No. 1 JUCO middle linebacker by *SuperPrep* and No. 2 JUCO prospect by Rivals.com.

Donald Stephenson OT 6'6" 275 Blue Spring, MO

Ranked No. 7 prospect in Missouri and No. 34 tackle in the country by Rivals.com.

Jimmy Stevens K 5'6" 170 Oklahoma City, OK

Named first-team All-USA by *USA Today*, first-team All-State kicker by *Tulsa World* and first-team All-State punter by *The Daily Oklahoman*. Broke national HS record by converting 50 career field goals. Ranked No. 13 prospect in Oklahoma by Rivals.com.

Tyler Stradford WR 6'3" 180 New Orleans, LA

Ranked No. 23 prospect in Louisiana by Rivals.com.

Londell Taylor ATH 6'3" 215 Vian, OK

Had 47 catches for 1,171 yards and 16 TDs on offense; 52 tackles and nine INTs, with four returned for TDs, on defense in '06. Named co-Offensive Player of the Year in Class 2A-District 6 and first-team Class 2A All-State by *Tulsa World* as a senior.

Alex Williams OT 6'5" 300 New Orleans, LA

Ranked No. 24 prospect in Louisiana by Rivals.com. Missed junior season due to Hurricane Katrina. Did not allow a sack after freshman season.

Corey Wilson WR 6'0" 185 Carrollton, TX

Brother of former Sooner receiver Travis Wilson. Ranked No. 23 prospect in Texas and No. 34 wide receiver in the country by Rivals.com.

RECRUITING BREAKDOWN

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Florida	1
Michigan	1
Missouri.....	1

MOVING ON

Even without Adrian Peterson, Sooners still stocked at RB

by John Helsley

Adrian Peterson jumped to the NFL early and somehow, surprisingly, Sooner fans themselves resisted jumping — from the ledges of tall buildings.

Typically, losing a star like Peterson with the clock still ticking on his eligibility would have created panic in the Sooner kingdom.

Not this time. In fact, once Peterson declared his intentions to leave, Oklahoma followers never even fretted, instead wishing him well and offering thanks for dropping by.

They were moving on.

Just like their Sooners.

Moving on to Allen Patrick, who made the transition easier with his proven production while Peterson missed seven games with a broken collarbone. Moving on to Chris Brown, a sophomore who kept the Sooners running when Patrick missed two games with a bum ankle.

Moving on to DeMarco Murray and Mossis Madu, two talented redshirt freshmen who may just offer more playmaking promise than Patrick or Brown.

Yes, the Sooners seem equipped — and comfortable — moving on without Peterson, the school's No. 3 all-time rusher and a sure-fire Heisman Trophy contender had he stayed for his senior season.

"It's not a concern at all," says OU offensive tackle Trent Williams. "We've got all kinds of running backs, every kind of back you need back there. I think we're going to be all right. I think we're maybe going to be better than last year."

"No one can replace an Adrian Peterson, but I think as a unit they can have better impact."

While offensive coordinator Kevin Wilson won't go so far as to call it a committee approach, he admits the Sooners have too much talent to ignore. So spring was spent identifying specific skill sets, with running backs also regularly filling the slot receiver role in an effort to get the best players on the field.

"We're trying to find ways to get different guys on the field from time to time, different scenarios," Wilson says. "We'll see how far that goes."

"It's just those are some gifted running backs."

And Wilson won't hesitate using any — or all.

"I think those kids all respect each other and see that," Wilson says. "And they recognize the internal competition. I see those guys being successful runners, and having a successful year running the ball. So I don't know that it means there's going to be just one guy being the feature guy. It could be. Somebody gets a hot hand or consistently gets good."



Adrian Peterson's heir apparent, Allen Patrick (right), must hold off a host of talented backs, including Chris Brown (opposite).

"But I can also see it being that several of those guys are a good part of that position."

Patrick stands prominent among the Peterson replacements. He played the role more than capably a year ago. And as the only senior in the group, he offers experience, toughness and reliability, not to mention talent.

When Peterson broke his collarbone late in a win over Iowa State, doomsday reports hit Norman. The Sooners, at 4-2, had lost their only matchups with ranked teams. And four of the next six games were on the road. But Patrick ran for 110 yards in a win over Colorado, then ripped off 162 at Missouri and 173 at Texas A&M, two more wins in a streak that reached eight and included a Big 12 title game conquest of old rival Nebraska.

A former junior college safety recruit, Patrick finished 2006 with 761 yards, all but 73 of those in six of OU's final eight games.

"Last year gave me the confidence that I could come out and perform at the level that D-1 has to offer," Patrick says. "Going off when players are flying around fast, it felt good the way things worked out for me. Everything fell into place."

Patrick even did a decent impression of Peterson workload-wise, carrying 35 times in his first start against Colorado, then 36 times the following week at Missouri and 32 times at A&M. By then, Patrick said he felt like a running back again for the first time since high school.

"At Texas A&M, I kind of had a feel that game," Patrick says. "I started out strong early and it continued throughout the game. I really made things happen. The first quarter was a blast for me; I had over 100 yards. The offense came along and started clicking and that made it easy on me."

And yet, Patrick clings to his place atop the depth chart, now that Murray has parlayed a sensational spring into a bid to become OU's next great tailback. Murray, a Las Vegas native, arrived as one of the nation's most touted running backs last fall. But a toe injury that lingered through preseason and fall ruled him out of '06 plans and delayed him showing off his skills. Starting fresh in the spring, Murray's dazzling play became the top story line, overshadowing even a closely monitored search for a starting quarterback.

In OU's three major spring scrimmages, Murray totaled 327 yards and four touchdowns on 29 carries — 11.3 yards per attempt. And many were highlight-reel yards, featuring Murray's speed and swivel-hip elusiveness.

"I've been just trying to have fun and work hard, show the coaches what I can do," Murray says. "I think I did a good job in the spring."

Showed his teammates, too.

"That first spring does a whole lot for a player," says Sooners wide receiver Malcolm Kelly. "And DeMarco is taking advantage of it. You can see what he can do out there. The first thing I probably thought of with DeMarco was Reggie Bush. That was really the first thing that went through my mind, just because of the way

he makes people miss in the open field. He can be a home-run threat almost any time."

Kelly wasn't alone with the Bush comparisons.

"Bush is one of my favorite players, so I hate to just throw his name out there like that," says cornerback Reggie Smith. "But (Murray) has highlight stuff like (Bush) does."

Even Patrick found himself impressed with Murray's super spring.

"I love to see a young guy come out here and make big yardage," Patrick says. "That tells you something big when a young guy can come in against a Division I defense and just rip down the field. It's very exciting to see things like that happen."

Brown is the anti-Murray — straight ahead, nothing fancy, just power and production.

And like Patrick, he's proven, having stepped in for an injured Patrick in two games, running for 84 yards and two touchdowns in a win over Texas Tech, followed by a 169-yard, one-TD performance in a rout of Baylor.

Chris Brown have been more impressive than (Patrick), in the short amount of spring practice time," Wilson says.

Then there's Madu, a home-grown talent from Norman who gave the Sooners a trio of top running back prospects in the same recruiting class. Madu showed flashes of skills similar to Murray's early into spring workouts but was slowed by an ankle sprain that halted his participation late.

Clearly, Wilson has options.

"We may play several guys," says Wilson. "One may play more than not, but to say one guy's going to get 25 or 30 carries ... maybe one day he does, but then the next game he's a 12- or 15-carry guy. We're not going to sit there and slash them up. Whoever's hot."

That puts some pressure on staying hot.

"That comes along with the program," Patrick says. "Oklahoma always recruits players that are versatile. We put a lot of athletes out there on the field. Everybody's trying to work their way in, going at the competition hard."



Brown says his freshman opportunity, followed by a solid spring, sends him surging with confidence into the season.

"It boosted my work ethic, just to know that I played a part in our success," Brown says. "It was a real boost for me, mentally and physically, to get in there with the guys and know that I had some success."

Like Murray, Brown was a touted recruit, a two-time All-Stater out of Alexandria, La., where he set the school rushing record with 5,866 career yards.

So Patrick, who waited for Peterson to step aside, now must worry about the young guys stepping up.

"Players will tell you that DeMarco and

We're just trying to see what everybody can do once they get in and really see how things work, see how they fit in.

"It don't matter how many times you get the ball, as long as you're in the game and contributing to the team."

Again, Wilson has options.

None named Peterson, yet there was no panic when they lost him for seven games last year. Only five individual 100-yard rushing performances. And wins.

"If not for that," Wilson says, "it would have been for eight months, 'The sky is falling. We can't play without Adrian Peterson.'"

"At Oklahoma, there are a couple players running around once in a while."



The past four years bulldozers, sky cranes and construction crews have been busy turning a decaying football stadium into a state-of-the-art facility. When the \$260 million project is complete in two years, 60,000-seat Boone Pickens Stadium will rank among the top venues in the country.

Oklahoma State coach Mike Gundy, in his third season, is undergoing a building project of his own. After signing back-to-back top 25 national recruiting classes, the Cowboys, coming off a 7-6 season capped by a win over Alabama in the Independence Bowl, are a program on the rise.

"Our coaches and players are committed to take this program to another level," Gundy says. "It comes down to this: You have to have big dreams. We're not there, yet. But it has to start somewhere."

The Cowboys return 15 starters, 18 if you include specialists, 20 if you include two senior defensive ends who started earlier in their careers.

Oklahoma State's balanced offense — the Cowboys and Boise State were the only two teams in the country to average more than 200 yards passing and 200 yards rushing — was ranked seventh nationally in scoring (35.2 points). With seven returning starters, the offense once again will pose problems for opposing defensive coordinators. Oklahoma State returns players who accounted for all the passing yards, 81 percent of the rushing yards and 74 percent of the receiving yards.

But to climb in the rugged Big 12 South, a defense ranked 89th in total yards allowed must improve under new coordinator Tim Beckman, who spent the previous two years as defensive backs coach at Ohio State after six seasons as Bowling Green's defensive coordinator. Oklahoma State returns eight defensive starters but must replace its top three defensive tackles.

Quarterbacks Bobby Reid's ability to make big plays with his arm and legs is ideal for offensive coordinator Larry Fedora's spread offense. Reid is coming off one of the most productive seasons in school history, compiling 2,766 yards of total offense and 29 touchdowns. Reid ran for 500 yards, but coaches want him to run even more. Sophomore Zac Robinson, a quality backup who also is a dual threat, occasionally was on the field at the same time as Reid late last season. The plan is to get the athletic Robinson more involved as an occasional wide receiver or running back. Redshirt freshman Alex Cate, one of the nation's top high school quarterbacks two years ago, probably won't see much action. But Cate played so well in the spring coaches feel he's earned the opportunity to play a little if the Cowboys have a non-conference blowout.

Running Backs Billed as a home run threat with blazing speed, senior Dantrell Savage was hampered by a severely sprained knee the first month, but the junior college transfer earned the starting job once healthy. Savage rushed for a team-high 820 yards and was named the Independence Bowl Offensive MVP. Coaches expected to redshirt sophomore Keith Toston (631 rushing yards), but he performed so well in preseason camp he made the most of an opportunity when Savage was sidelined in September. Savage and Toston are both receiving threats out of the backfield. Senior Julius Crosslin, a former fullback, finally has adjusted to Fedora's offense that rarely requires a blocking back. A battering-ram, short-yardage specialist two years ago, Crosslin scored 12 touchdowns as a sophomore.

NUMBERS GAME

4

For the first time in school history, Oklahoma State had four players rush for at least 500 yards — Dantrell Savage (820), Keith Toston (631), Mike Hamilton (546) and Bobby Reid (500)

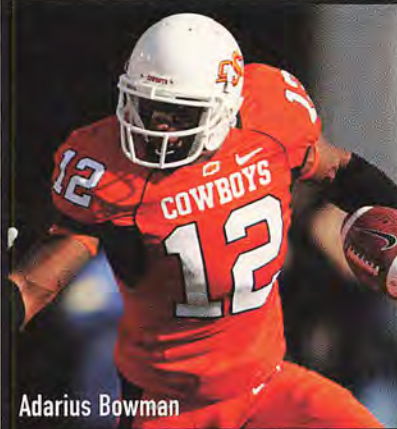
Receivers After sitting out one year following a transfer from North Carolina, Adarius Bowman emerged as a game-breaking receiver. Because of his size and speed, Bowman is a big-play threat every time he catches the ball. Coming off an All-Big 12 season (60 catches, 1,181 yards and 12 touchdowns), Bowman should be one of the nation's top wideouts. Vying for the other spot are senior Anthony Parks, playing with only one kidney; sophomore Artie Woods, who has blazing speed; and sophomore Jeremy Broadway, sidelined last season by a broken wrist. Woods was the star of the spring game and is a deep threat who can stretch a defense. The competition will really heat up in preseason when Dez Bryant and three other highly regarded freshmen report. Junior tight end Brandon Pettigrew has developed into a solid blocker and finished strong last season. Pettigrew creates over-the-middle matchup problems for linebackers and safeties. The coaches would like to get him more involved this fall.

Offensive Linemen For a change, the Cowboys have depth in the trenches. Three starters return and several promising but inexperienced candidates are competing to fill two vacancies. Senior David Koenig has made 27 straight starts, the majority at left guard, but he will likely take over at right tackle. Junior center David Washington has

TWO-MINUTE DRILL

A QUICK LOOK AT THE COWBOYS

Oklahoma State lost four games decided on the final play but still finished 7-6, highlighted by wins over Nebraska and Alabama. Now, with 15 returning starters and back-to-back top 25 recruiting classes, the Cowboys should be better equipped to win the close games. Quarterback **Bobby Reid** has the talent to be a star. Reid compiled one of the top seasons in school history but has been inconsistent. Now in his fourth season, Reid is showing more and more poise. The offense was among the nation's best last season and could be even better since many of the team's top playmakers were essentially starters for the first time last season. New defensive coordinator **Tim Beckman** preached aggressive play during spring practice and has 10 of the team's top 11 tacklers returning. Whether the defense improves could determine whether the Cowboys climb in the Big 12 South standings. The Cowboys' schedule is challenging. Eight opponents played in a bowl game last season, and five of those games are on the road. A year ago, the Cowboys emphasized improving their turnover margin and improved from 114th nationally to 34th (+5). This spring the emphasis was on becoming a tougher team, both physically and mentally.



Adarius Bowman

2007 SCHEDULE

S. 1	at Georgia	L
S. 8	Florida Atlantic	W
S. 14	at Troy	W
S. 22	Texas Tech	W
S. 29	Sam Houston State	W
O. 6	at Texas A&M	*
O. 13	at Nebraska	L
O. 20	Kansas State	W
O. 27	at Oklahoma	L
N. 3	Texas	L
N. 10	Kansas	W
N. 17	at Baylor	W

*Games in **bold** represent games crucial to the season. W or L indicates a projected win or loss



Oklahoma QB
Bobby Reid

made 24 consecutive starts. Sophomore Russell Okung, moving to left tackle, adapted so quickly as a true freshman that he started eight games. "I give (offensive line) coach (Joe) Wickline props because he moves everybody around all the time to get a lot of looks at different spots," Koenig says. "Coach Wickline keeps everybody on their toes, which I like."

Defensive Linemen The defensive line is the Cowboys' biggest question mark. Oklahoma State lost all four starters. The biggest concern is in the interior, where the Cowboys lost their top three tackles from a year ago. Senior defensive ends Nathan Peterson and Marque Fountain started earlier in their careers and have a combined 23 career sacks. They have both battled injuries at times but are veterans who can provide a pass rush and leadership. Richetti Jones, a highly touted recruit from Dallas who recorded 53 sacks in high school, could make an immediate impact, especially on passing downs. Senior Maurice Cummings and junior Jeray Chatham ended spring as the starting defensive tackles but only have a

combined 12 career tackles. Tonga Tea, a junior college all-American, could become an instant starter.

Linebackers Everyone returns, but there will be some changes. Rod Johnson, the starting middle linebacker, will play some as a standup defensive end. Sophomores Chris Collins and Patrick Lavine were named to some freshman All-America teams. Lavine, who finished second on the team with 70 tackles, moves to middle linebacker. Collins was emerging as the top defensive player before he was sidelined by a knee injury. He underwent surgery in October but should be fully recovered. Senior Jeremy Nethon, who earned the starting weak-side linebacker job midway through the season, recorded a career-high 11 tackles to earn Defensive MVP honors at the Independence Bowl. Senior Donovan Woods, the starting quarterback on the 2004 Alamo Bowl team, moved to defense the following year. Woods once again is being moved, this time to a hybrid linebacker/safety position.

Defensive Backs All four starters return, but similar to linebacker there will be some changes. Senior Martel Van Zant, deaf since birth, started every game last season and will play the boundary corner. Junior Jacob Lacey and sophomore Perrish Cox will compete for the other spot, and one will serve as the nickel back. Sophomore safety Andre Sexton, who led the team in tackles, was pushed last spring by former wide receiver Ricky Price. Quinton Moore moved into Woods' former spot.

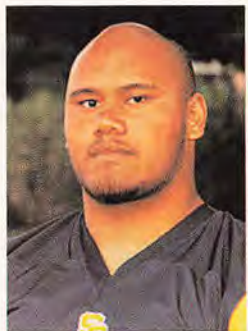
Specialists This is an area where the Cowboys usually excel, although special teams breakdowns were critical in two of the four losses decided on the game's final play. Oklahoma State once again should be among the national leaders in kickoff returns with Cox and some talented freshmen. Junior kicker Jason Ricks had a solid season. Ricks was 10-of-12 on field goals and has hit from 53 and 55 yards during his career. Junior punter Matt Fodge (44.9 average) ranked eighth nationally.

RISING STAR

The Cowboys lost their top three

defensive tackles, but **Tonga "Junior" Tea**, a junior college All-American, is projected to make an immediate impact. Tea played very little in high school but blossomed at Snow (Utah) College. He was a

key cog on a defense that ranked second in the nation.



SCOUTING THE COWBOYS

Opposing coaches size up Oklahoma State: "They're going to put \$130 million into a football complex. It's unbelievable. All of that kind of stuff helps recruiting. That and giving all of their coaches four- and five-year contracts to maintain continuity. They're really playing that up in recruiting. ... This is really the team in our conference that scares you to death to play, primarily because they are so athletic, and you never know if they are going to come out with purpose. If they get it rolling, you can be in for a long afternoon. Just ask Nebraska about that. ... You really have to admire the athleticism of quarterback Bobby Reid; he's a stud. And (wide receiver) Adarius Bowman is such a big (6'4"), athletic target. If you focus on stopping the passing game, (running backs) Dantrell Savage and Keith Toston can really hurt you. ... The defense is unpredictable at times, and I'm not sure what (new coordinator) Tim Beckman will mean for that unit. But he has a couple of young stars to work with, especially linebacker Patrick Lavine. ... It's really a consistency issue with Oklahoma State. You look at their schedule last year and see that they played really well at times, but dropped the ball at other times."



Andre Sexton

KEY COWBOYS

Bobby Reid, QB

High school legend in the Houston area, often compared to Vince Young.

Adarius Bowman, WR

Earned first-team All-Big 12 honors after transferring from North Carolina.

Chris Collins, LB

The Cowboys' top defensive player before a knee injury sidelined him.

Nathan Peterson, DE

Has a motor that never stops but has been hampered by nagging injuries.

Dantrell Savage, RB

Slowed the first month by a knee injury, the juco transfer finished strong.

KEY LOSSES

Corey Hilliard, T

A four-year starter, Hilliard is one of two offensive linemen who must be replaced.

D'Juan Woods, WR

Third-leading receiver in school history.

Ryan McBean, DT

Juco transfer was a solid two-year starter.

Victor DeGrate, DE

A pass-rushing demon capable of changing the momentum of a game.

Larry Brown, DT

Brown, also a juco transfer, was a two-year starter alongside McBean.

PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE (7)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 12	Adarius Bowman	Sr.
WR 83	Artrell Woods	So.
WR 4	Anthony Parks	Sr.
LT 76	Russell Okung	So.
LG 77	Noah Franklin	So.
C 63	David Washington	Jr.
RG 65	Steve Denning	Jr.
RT 61	David Koenig	Sr.
TE 87	Brandon Pettigrew	Jr.
QB 14	Bobby Reid	Jr.
RB 22	Dantrell Savage	Sr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR	Dez Bryant	Fr.
WR 9	Jeremy Broadway	So.
WR 10	Tommy Devereaux	Sr.
LT 57	Brady Bond	So.
LG 52	Andrew Lawrence	So.
C 54	Andrew Lewis	So.
RG 71	Trent Perkins	Fr.
RT 57	Jacob Secrest	Fr.
TE 82	Justin Waller	Jr.
QB 11	Zac Robinson	So.
RB 5	Keith Toston	So.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE (8)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 97	Marque Fountain	Sr.
DT 56	Maurice Cummings	Sr.
DT 92	Tonga Tea	Jr.
DE 13	Nathan Peterson	Sr.
SLB 44	Chris Collins	So.
MLB 4	Patrick Lavine	So.
WLB 19	Jeremy Nethon	Sr.
CB 7	Martel Van Zant	Sr.
CB 17	Jacob Lacey	Jr.
SS 20	Andre Sexton	So.
FS 26	Quinton Moore	Jr.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 98	Derek Burton	So.
DT 96	Jeray Chatham	Jr.
DT 93	Jonathan Lewis	So.
DE 2	Rod Johnson	Sr.
SLB 8	Donovan Woods	Sr.
MLB 42	Justin Gent	Fr.
WLB 36	Alex Odiari	Jr.
CB 27	Calvin Mickens	Jr.
CB 16	Perrish Cox	So.
SS 6	Ricky Price	Jr.
FS 25	Clint Coe	Sr.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos. No.	Name	Class
K 85	Jason Ricks	Jr.
P 18	Matt Fodge	Jr.
KR 16	Perrish Cox	So.
PR 16	Perrish Cox	So.

Returning Starters In Bold

2007 OKLAHOMA STATE ROSTER

Quarterbacks	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown						
2	Johnson, Rod	DE/LB	6'3"	250	Sr.	Galveston, TX					
93	Lewis, Jonathan	DT	6'2"	290	So.	Carrollton, TX					
62	Oh, Allen	DL	6'1"	290	Jr.	Irving, TX					
13	Peterson, Nathan	DE	6'2"	240	Sr.	Tulsa, OK					
94	Quincey, Patrick	DL	6'3"	265	Fr.	Columbus, GA					
92	Tea Jr., Tonga	DT	6'0"	320	Jr.	Anchorage, AK					
Running Backs	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown						
47	Burton, Jeremiah	RB	6'1"	250	Jr.	Enid, OK					
48	Carter, Zach	RB	6'1"	225	Sr.	Kennesaw, GA					
32	Crosslin, Julius	RB	6'0"	230	Sr.	Amarillo, TX					
33	Johnson, John	RB	6'1"	255	Jr.	El Dorado, AR					
23	Martin, DeAaron	RB	5'8"	190	Sr.	Oklahoma City, OK					
25	Offor, Chris	RB	5'11"	210	Jr.	Glenpool, OK					
22	Savage, Dantrell	RB	5'9"	195	Sr.	Columbus, GA					
5	Toston, Keith	RB	6'1"	210	So.	Angleton, TX					
Receivers	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown						
31	Bailey, Ben	TE	6'3"	225	Fr.	Bixby, OK					
12	Bowman, Adarius	WR	6'4"	220	Sr.	Chattanooga, TN					
9	Broadway, Jeremy	WR	6'0"	195	So.	Houston, TX					
81	Broughton, Scott	WR	6'0"	200	Sr.	Huger, SC					
81	Cameron, Eddie	WR	5'11"	175	Fr.	Pompano Beach, FL					
80	Conner, DeMarcus	WR	6'1"	200	So.	Spring, TX					
10	Devereaux, Tommy	WR	6'0"	185	Sr.	Duncanville, TX					
89	Johnson, Kenneth	WR	6'0"	180	So.	Houston, TX					
28	Morris, Jon	WR	6'0"	195	Sr.	Glenpool, OK					
26	Nelson, Todd	WR	6'2"	205	Jr.	Edmond, OK					
15	Newton, Seth	WR	6'3"	195	Jr.	Girard, KS					
4	Parks, Anthony	WR	6'1"	190	Sr.	Olathe, KS					
87	Pettigrew, Brandon	TE	6'6"	260	Jr.	Tyler, TX					
88	Smith, Paschal	TE	6'5"	260	Sr.	Dallas, TX					
84	Sokolosky, Taylor	WR	5'10"	200	Fr.	Tulsa, OK					
82	Waller, Justin	TE	6'4"	240	Jr.	Ponca City, OK					
83	Woods, Artrell	WR	6'1"	185	So.	Bryan, TX					
Offensive Linemen	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown						
60	Bond, Brady	T	6'6"	290	So.	Garber, OK					
78	Booker, Michael	OL	6'3"	310	Fr.	Paris, TX					
65	Denning, Steve	G	6'5"	300	Jr.	Southaven, MS					
77	Franklin, Noah	G	6'5"	310	So.	Vinita, OK					
66	Grimes, Mike	OL	6'2"	310	Fr.	Rowlett, TX					
61	Koenig, David	T	6'5"	290	Sr.	Cape Coral, FL					
52	Lawrence, Andrew	G	6'4"	305	So.	Dallas, GA					
54	Lewis, Andrew	C	6'5"	295	So.	Joplin, MO					
76	Okung, Russell	T	6'5"	290	So.	Fort Bend, TX					
67	Palmoore, Jerry	OL	6'6"	315	Jr.	Memphis, TN					
71	Perkins, Trent	G	6'5"	300	Fr.	Alice, TX					
57	Secrest, Jacob	T	6'5"	295	Fr.	Stillwater, OK					
63	Washington, David	C	6'3"	305	Jr.	Guthrie, OK					
Defensive Linemen	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown						
98	Burton, Derek	DE	6'5"	265	So.	Muskogee, OK					
96	Chatham, Jeray	DT	6'3"	280	Jr.	Houston, TX					
91	Chinasa, Ugo	DE	6'6"	245	Fr.	Richardson, TX					
56	Cummings, Maurice	DT	6'4"	265	Sr.	Rosebud, TX					
97	Fountain, Marque	DE	6'2"	260	Sr.	Missouri City, TX					
46	Jarka, Shane	DE	6'4"	260	Fr.	Fort Bend, TX					
Linebackers	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown						
59	Alexander, Kenny	LB	6'1"	215	Fr.	McKinney, TX					
35	Brown, Marcus	LB	6'2"	240	Jr.	Hephzibah, GA					
53	Clements, Seb	LB	6'1"	225	Jr.	Sanger, TX					
44	Collins, Chris	SLB	6'2"	240	So.	Texarkana, TX					
42	Gent, Justin	MLB	6'2"	235	Fr.	Irving, TX					
4	Lavine, Patrick	MLB	6'3"	220	So.	Houston, TX					
41	Lemon, Orie	LB	6'1"	225	So.	Houston, TX					
19	Nethon, Jeremy	WLB	6'0"	225	Sr.	Beggs, OK					
36	Odiari, Alex	WLB	6'0"	240	Jr.	Carrollton, TX					
52	Woodford, Doug	LB	6'0"	215	Fr.	Enid, OK					
8	Woods, Donovan	SLB	6'2"	225	Sr.	Oklahoma City, TX					
Defensive Backs	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown						
23	Anderson, Terrance	DB	6'0"	180	So.	Aldine, TX					
11	Bell, T.J.	DB	6'0"	185	Jr.	DeSoto, TX					
25	Coe, Clint	FS	6'2"	195	Sr.	Edmond, OK					
16	Cox, Perrish	CB	6'1"	185	So.	Waco, TX					
24	Fontenot, Deron	S	5'10"	190	Fr.	Grand Prairie, TX					
17	Lacey, Jacob	CB	5'11"	175	Jr.	Garland, TX					
29	Lewis, Billy	DB	6'0"	195	Sr.	Tulsa, OK					
49	Manison, David	DB	6'1"	190	So.	Oklahoma City, OK					
27	Mickens, Calvin	CB	6'2"	200	Jr.	Beaumont, TX					
26	Moore, Quinton	FS	5'11"	185	Jr.	Pearland, TX					
6	Price, Ricky	SS	6'1"	190	Jr.	Houston, TX					
20	Sexton, Andre	SS	6'1"	210	So.	Houston, TX					
49	Stoker, Ralston	DB	5'9"	180	Fr.	Dallas, TX					
28	Thompson, Al'Darius	DB	5'11"	180	So.	Mesquite, TX					
7	Van Zant, Martel	CB	6'1"	210	Sr.	Tyler, TX					
Specialists	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown						
55	Allen, Zach	LS	6'1"	260	Jr.	Edmond, OK					
95	Bailey, Dan	K	6'0"	205	Fr.	Mustang, OK					
39	Benge, Robert	P	5'9"	190	So.	Carrollton, TX					
18	Fodge, Matt	P	6'1"	195	Jr.	Garland, TX					
37	Goudge, Elliott	K	6'0"	195	Fr.	San Antonio, TX					
45	Kollars, Patrick	K	6'0"	200	So.	Vinita, OK					
38	Reynolds, Cole	P	6'2"	225	So.	Edmond, OK					
85	Ricks, Jason	K	6'2"	200	Jr.	Round Rock, TX					
48	Smith, Jared	LS	6'2"	190	Fr.	Duncan, OK					
40	Smith, Mike	LS	5'9"	190	So.	Lawton, OK					

Head Coach: Mike Gundy • Record at School: 11-13 (2 years) • Career Record: 11-13 (2 years)

Offensive Coordinator: Larry Fedora • Defensive Coordinator: Tim Beckman • Stillwater, Okla. • Boone-Pickens Stadium (48,000)

2006 INDIVIDUAL STATS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.
Bobby Reid	267	148	2,266	24	11
Zac Robinson	51	25	345	3	0

Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Dantrell Savage	126	820	6.5	8
Keith Toston	106	631	6.0	6
Mike Hamilton	97	546	5.6	4

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Adarius Bowman	60	1,181	19.7	12
D'Juan Woods	41	647	15.8	5
Brandon Pettigrew	24	310	12.9	4

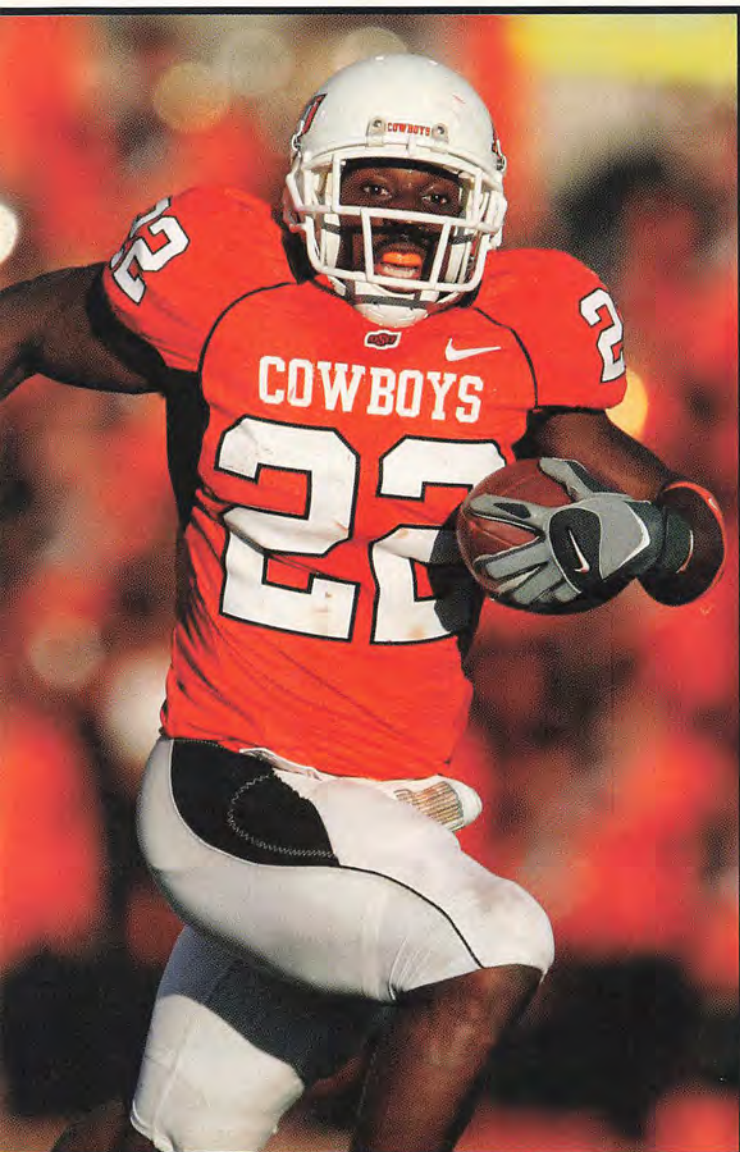
Kicking: Jason Ricks, 10-12 FGs, 47-49 XPs, 77 points

Tackles: Andre Sexton, 79; Patrick Lavine 70

Sacks: Victor DeGrate, 9.5

Interceptions: Three players tied with 2

Returning Players in Bold



OUTSIDE THE HUDDLE

Intriguing opener A high-profile season opener could set the tone for the entire season. Georgia will be favored at home, but the Cowboys are hungry to prove they're a program that can crack the top 25 national rankings.

Hidden weapon Oklahoma State coach Mike Gundy believes strength and conditioning coach Rob Glass is one of the best in the country. After spending 10 seasons at Florida, Glass returned to his alma mater after Gundy was elevated to head coach two years ago. Beginning his third year, Glass' weight-lifting regimen and innovative conditioning techniques are starting to produce results.

Major commitment In addition to major changes buoyed by a \$160 million donation by Boone Pickens, Oklahoma State also is making a commitment to keep its staff intact. Larry Fedora received a raise to \$393,000 and is now one of the highest-paid offensive coordinators in the country. Nearly every coach has at least a three-year guaranteed contract. A few have guaranteed five-year deals.

New era Oklahoma State is in the third and final phase of a seven-year, \$260 million renovation of Boone Pickens Stadium. When completed in two years it will seat 60,000-plus and have state-of-the-art NFL-like coaching offices, locker rooms and video boards throughout the stadium.

Special advantage The Cowboys always have had highly ranked special teams units, although special teams blunders contributed to a couple of losses last season. With kickoffs being moved back to the 30-yard-line, OSU's coaches believe they should have an advantage on returns with Perrish Cox and some talented freshmen capable of taking a kick the distance.

2006 RESULTS

Record: 7-6 (3-5 Big 12)

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Att.
S. 2	Missouri State	W	52-10	41,393
S. 9	at Arkansas State	W	35-7	23,816
S. 16	Florida Atlantic	W	48-8	42,970
S. 23	at Houston	L	25-34	28,260
O. 7	at Kansas State	L	27-31	46,616
O. 14	at Kansas	W	42-32	41,203
O. 21	Texas A&M	L	33-34	43,006
O. 28	Nebraska	W	41-29	40,108
N. 4	at Texas	L	10-36	89,036
N. 11	Baylor	W	66-24	35,430
N. 18	at Texas Tech	L	24-30	45,457
N. 25	Oklahoma	L	21-27	42,819
D. 28	#Alabama	W	34-31	45,054
	#Independence Bowl			

Dantrell Savage

2007 RECRUITING

The Cowboys signed what was ranked by some services to be a top 25 class, which marks one of the few times in the program's history that Oklahoma State has signed back-to-back top 25 classes. Richetti Jones, the No. 59-ranked player in the nation according to Scout.com, is one of the highest-ranked pass-rushing defensive ends.

Four highly regarded receivers provide a solid foundation for the future, and a couple might make an immediate impact. Dez Bryant, whose high school coach says he's every bit as talented as former Texas star Roy Williams, was a Parade All-American and was ranked in the top 100 by nearly every scouting service. Wideouts Hubert Anyiam, Damian Davis and Josh Cooper (179 receptions his final two high school seasons) assure offensive coordinator Larry Fedora's spread offense will have weapons to throw to in future years.

Tonga Tea, a junior college All-America defensive tackle who played only one year of high school football in Alaska, will be asked to fill a major void with OSU losing its top three interior defensive linemen.

Two high school option quarterbacks will play defense at Oklahoma State. William Cole rushed for 2,966 yards and 41 touchdowns to lead Cedar Hill to a Division II Texas state title but will play cornerback for the Cowboys. Adrian Moore is an under-the-radar option quarterback from Arkansas who essentially missed his sophomore and junior seasons due to an injury and a transfer rule. Moore rushed for 2,264 yards as a senior but will play safety at Oklahoma State.

Kenny Alexander LB 6'1" 210 McKinney, TX

Ranked No. 30 linebacker in the country and No. 63 prospect in Texas by Scout.com. Registered 78 tackles, four sacks and four INTs as a senior.

Hubert Anyiam WR 6'0" 175 Garland, TX

Ranked No. 32 wide receiver in nation by Rivals.com. Had 60 catches for 1,058 yards and 12 touchdowns as a senior; 48 catches for 990 yards and 10 TDs as a junior.

Jamie Blatnick DE 6'3" 250 Celina, TX

Ranked No. 42 defensive end in the country by Scout.com.

Desmond Bryant WR 6'1" 220 Lufkin, TX

Ranked No. 29 prospect in the nation by ESPN.com and No. 7 receiver by *SuperPrep*. Had 53 catches for 1,207 yards and 21 TDs as a senior; 48 catches for 1,025 yards and 16 TDs as a junior. Scored 41 TDs in 31 career games.

William Cole CB 6'0" 175 Cedar Hill, TX

Ranked No. 14 athlete in the country and No. 14 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com. Named Player of the Year by *Texas Football* magazine. Rushed for 290 yards during Class 5A state championship game, with TD runs of 75, 71 and 63 yards.

Josh Cooper WR 6'1" 175 Mustang, OK

Registered 81 catches for 1,328 yards and 15 TDs on offense; 84 tackles and six INTs on defense; eight field goals and two kick return TDs on special teams as a senior. Ranked No. 10 prospect in Oklahoma by Rivals.com.

Damian Davis WR 6'5" 190 Mart, TX

Had 56 catches for 1,082 yards and 15 TDs on offense; five INTs on defense in '06. Named first-team Class 2A All-State by *The AP*.

Deron Fontenot S 5'10" 200 Grand Prairie, TX

Ranked No. 49 safety in the country by Rivals.com.

Grant Garner C 6'3" 265 Mesquite, TX

Ranked No. 55 prospect in Texas by Scout.com and No. 18 center in nation by Rivals.com.

Jared Glover LB 6'5" 220 Bixby, OK

Ranked No. 3 prospect in Oklahoma and No. 12 linebacker in country by Scout.com. Named all-state by *The Daily Oklahoman*, *Tulsa World* and Oklahoma Coaches Association.

Kendall Hunter RB 5'8" 180 Tyler, TX

Ranked No. 40 running back in nation by Rivals.com. Had 1,200 yards and 14 TDs in 2006.

Ahmad Jones DT 6'3" 310 Silsbee, TX

Ranked No. 32 defensive tackle in country and No. 64 prospect in Texas by Scout.com.

SPOTLIGHT ON...RICHETTI JONES

Defensive End, 6'4", 240 Dallas, Texas

Ranked as one of the nation's top pass rushers, Jones recorded 53 sacks and 230 tackles in high school, numbers that would have been higher if he the 6'4", 240-pound speed rusher hadn't suffered a hip injury midway through his senior year. Jones leaped up to block a pass in practice. When he landed he suffered a freak fracture in his hip. Oklahoma State's coaches have been told by doctors that Jones, a top 75 national recruit, should be 100 percent when preseason camp begins. Named a SuperPrep All-American and selected for the U.S. Army All-American game, Jones uses 4.6 speed to wreak havoc in the backfield.

Nick Martinez G 6'4" 290 Floresville, TX

Ranked No. 65 offensive guard in the country by Rivals.com.

Adrian Moore S 6'0" 200 Pine Bluff, AR

Ranked No. 10 prospect in Arkansas and No. 22 running back in nation by Scout.com. Rushed for 2,272 yards and 31 TDs on offense; 27 tackles and five INTs on defense in '06. Unknown until senior season due to injuries as a sophomore and junior.

Quinton Prince DL 6'4" 295 Oklahoma City, OK

Named first-team all-state by *The Daily Oklahoman* and *Tulsa World* as a senior. Recorded 89 tackles and 11 sacks as a senior; 75 tackles and 10 sacks as a junior.

Jacoby Reed CB 5'11" 175 Houston, TX

Ranked No. 54 cornerback in the country by Rivals.com.

Marcus Richardson LB 6'0" 220 Seguin, TX

Named District MVP and second-team Class 5A All-State by *The AP* as a senior. Registered 143 tackles in '06 and 145 tackles in '05.

Jonathan Rush G 6'5" 270 Killeen, TX

Ranked No. 51 offensive guard in nation and No. 96 prospect in Texas by Scout.com.

Tonga Tea DT 6'0" 315 Anchorage, AK

Transfer from Snow (Utah) College. Ranked No. 1 junior college defensive tackle by JCFootball.com and No. 11 junior college prospect by *SuperPrep*. Named first-team NJCAA All-American.

James Thomas S 6'0" 180 La Marque, TX

Ranked No. 31 safety in the country and No. 50 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com. Recorded 105 tackles, four forced fumbles and three INTs as a senior.

Marc Yerry C 6'4" 220 Waxhaw, NC

Deep snapper who also played tight end in high school. Had two touchdown catches in '06.

Wilson Youman TE 6'4" 240 St. Martinville, LA

Registered seven catches for 150 yards and five TDs as a senior.

RECRUITING BREAKDOWN

By Position

Defensive Backs	5
Offensive Linemen.....	4
Wide Receivers	4
Linebackers	3
Defensive Tackles	3
Defensive Ends	2
Running Backs.....	1
Tight Ends	1

By State

Texas	16
Oklahoma.....	3
Alaska	1
Arkansas	1
Louisiana	1
North Carolina	1



Texas caught Ohio State in Week 2 last year while trying to break in a new quarterback. This season, UT appears to have time — and the schedule — on its side to reclaim a Big 12 South title it fumbled away to Oklahoma after beating the Sooners.

The Longhorns are trying to find a running game to complement what should be a lethal passing attack. With serious holes to fill on the offensive line, that will be a challenge. There are also questions in the secondary. Texas will try to figure it all out against Arkansas State, TCU, UCF and Rice before diving into Big 12 play.

Mack Brown promoted long-time co-defensive coordinator Duane Akina to call plays on defense after Gene Chizik was named head coach at Iowa State. Akina figures to be more aggressive and take more chances with blitzes than Chizik, something that might have helped in last year's 45-42 loss at Kansas State — a loss that helped crush UT's BCS hopes after a 9-1 start.

Quarterbacks All Colt McCoy did in trying to replace Vince Young was throw for an NCAA freshman record-tying 29 TDs last season. He even generated Heisman Trophy buzz before a stinger sidelined him in the devastating loss at Kansas State. McCoy is 100 percent healthy this season, has put on close to 15 pounds of muscle and appears to be just as accurate. He completed 68.2 percent of his passes with only seven interceptions, three of them in a season-ending loss to Texas A&M with his shoulder still ailing. The biggest question is who will back up McCoy. The race is on between redshirt freshman Sherrod Harris, early enrollee John Chiles and freshman G.J. Kinne. Chiles, a gifted runner, could help the ground game by executing the team's zone-read, shotgun offense in certain situations (think Tim Tebow at Florida last season).

Running Backs Jamaal Charles, who averaged 7.4 yards per carry as a freshman and 5.3 as a sophomore, appears ready for a breakout season. He will need one, because Texas failed to average 4.0 yards per carry as a team in seven of its last nine games in 2006. Charles, who finished fifth in the 100 meters at the NCAA outdoor track nationals last year, didn't run track during spring practice so he could focus on football. He put on about 12 pounds of muscle. Coaches want Charles to be more of a leader and to run tougher, rather than always relying on his blazing speed. The search is on to find someone to back up Charles. The leading candidates are Chris Ogbonnaya (18 carries for 82 yards and one TD in 2006) and redshirt freshman Vondrell McGee. Texas has had depth at running back the past two

seasons, but with Emmanuel Moody switching his commitment from Texas to USC before last season, UT could be in trouble if something happens to Charles.

Receivers This is the deepest position on the offense. Senior Limas Sweed tied Roy Williams' 2002 single-season school record for touchdown receptions (12) last season. Senior Billy Pittman caught one more pass in 2006 (35) than he did in '05 (34), but his receiving yards dropped from 750 to 456. Pittman became more of a possession receiver last fall due to the emergence of Quan Cosby (45 catches for 525 yards, 2

NUMBERS GAME

32.2

The Texas defense must cut down on the big play this year. Last season, the final 15 touchdown passes

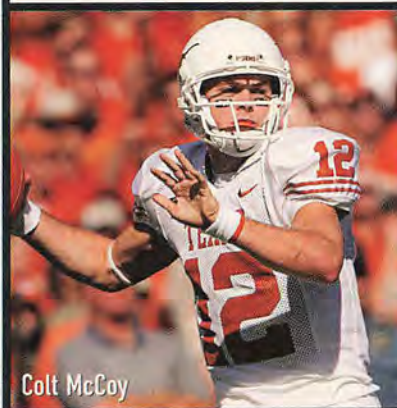
allowed by the Longhorns' defense averaged 32.2 yards.

TDs). Cosby became McCoy's go-to guy in pressure situations and figures to be an even bigger part of the offense this season. There is depth thanks to junior Jordan Shipley, who had four TD catches last season, and senior Nate Jones. Sophomore tight end Jermichael Finley, a college-caliber basketball player, is an incredibly athletic, big-play threat because of all the attention the receivers will attract. Finley's size (6'5") and speed should allow him to get loose deep down the middle of defenses the way former record-setting tight end David Thomas did a couple years ago.

Offensive Linemen The offensive line is the biggest concern coming into the season. There is talent but not much experience to replace All-America right guard Justin Blalock, center Lyle Sendlein and left guard Kasey Studdard. Those three were among the best interior linemen in school history and a big reason Texas was able to shed its soft label over the past four years. The good news for Brown is that O-line coach Mac McWhorter always seems to get the best out of his players. Texas has experienced bookend talent in senior left tackle Tony Hills and sophomore right tackle Adam Ulatoski. To replace the interior of his line, McWhorter will probably turn to sophomore Charlie Tanner at left guard, senior Dallas Griffin at center and junior Cedric Dockery at right guard. Dockery is coming off knee surgery. Sophomore J'Marcus Webb will rotate in at tackle. Sophomore Chris Hall will push for playing time at guard, while redshirt freshman Buck Burnette will do the same at center.

A QUICK LOOK AT THE LONGHORNS

With **Colt McCoy** and six experienced receivers, including tight end **Jermichael Finley**, the passing game should excel. But Texas needs to figure out why it couldn't run the ball consistently last season. **Mack Brown** says the line simply needs to take wider splits, backs need to run tougher and receivers need to do a better job of downfield blocking. But McCoy's inability to scare defenses as a run threat in a zone-read offense allowed defenders to bunch up with no fear of backside runs. With three new interior linemen, running back **Jamaal Charles** needs to get back to his freshman form, when he averaged 7.4 yards per carry. Don't be surprised if freshman backup quarterback **John Chiles**, a gifted runner, sees situational playing time because of his ability to execute shotgun option plays. If the defense takes on the personality of new playcaller **Duane Akina**, it should be physical and get after quarterbacks. Outside of Oklahoma, the toughest games appear to be road trips to Oklahoma State and Texas A&M and a home date with Nebraska. If the Horns get into BCS position, it's possible that voters could hold a soft non-league schedule against them.



Colt McCoy

2007 SCHEDULE

S. 1	Arkansas State	W
S. 8	TCU	W
S. 15	at UCF	W
S. 22	Rice	W
S. 29	Kansas State	W
O. 6	#Oklahoma	*
O. 13	at Iowa State	W
O. 20	at Baylor	W
O. 27	Nebraska	W
N. 3	at Oklahoma State	W
N. 10	Texas Tech	W
N. 23	at Texas A&M	W
	#Dallas, TX	

*Games in bold represent games crucial to the season. W or L indicates a projected win or loss.



Texas WR
Limas Sweed



Defensive Linemen Texas was third nationally against the run last season — giving up 61.2 yards per game — and could be even better this season thanks to the return of monster tackles Frank Okam, Derek Lokey and Roy Miller. Lokey's leadership is critical, and the defense suffered after he broke his leg (and still walked off the field) in a win at Nebraska last October. The defense will miss ends Tim Crowder and Brian Robison, who combined for 16 sacks last season. But coaches have high hopes for Aaron Lewis, a playmaker who started three games in 2006 and chased down Oklahoma's Adrian Peterson from behind. Junior Brian Orakpo (4.5 sacks in 2006) has established himself as a strong pass rusher who could break out this season. Ends Lamarr Houston, Henry Melton and Eddie Jones give Texas plenty of depth.

Linebackers The linebacking corps was a colossal disappointment in 2006. A lack of production forced a veteran secondary to over-commit to run support, leading to numerous big plays — even trick plays — given up

through the air. Increased competition should help. Last year's starters — Rashad Bobino, Robert Killebrew and Scott Derry — are getting big-time heat from Jared Norton, Sergio Kindle and Rod Muckelroy. Akina might be willing to live through some mistakes from the younger players in exchange for their ability to make big plays.

Defensive Backs There is plenty of speed to replace Thorpe Award-winning cornerback Aaron Ross, All-Big 12 safety Michael Griffin (the team's leading tackler the last two years) and cornerback Tarell Brown. But after giving up a school-record 3,071 passing yards last season, the question is whether that speed will be headed in the right direction. The most important players on the team may be senior safeties Drew Kelson and Marcus Griffin. Kelson returns to safety after a three-year odyssey at running back and linebacker. Kelson and Griffin will be in charge of making the calls and getting everyone lined up properly in the back seven, something Texas struggled with last season. Coaches are toying with the idea of substituting the entire defensive backfield every six plays. One group would include senior cornerback Brandon Foster, junior cornerback Ryan Palmer, Griffin at free safety and hard-hitting senior Erick Jackson at strong safety. The second group would include Kelson at free safety, sophomore Robert Joseph at strong safety, sophomore Deon Beasley at corner and redshirt freshman Chykie Brown at the other corner. Early enrollees Ben Wells (safety) and Curtis Brown (cornerback) also figure to play with so many seniors departing after 2007.

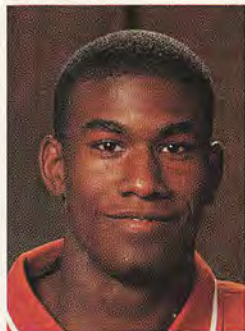
Specialists Texas discovered walk-on kicker Ryan Bailey at the oddest of times last season — on a game-winning, 22-yard field goal at Nebraska with only seconds left because of an injury to then-senior starter Greg Johnson. Punting chores handled by Johnson last season should fall to Bailey or sophomore Trevor Gerland. Texas will also break in new short and long snappers. Texas will miss special teams aces Michael Griffin (eight blocked punts) and Robison (six blocked kicks).

RISING STAR

Chykie Brown, a redshirt freshman

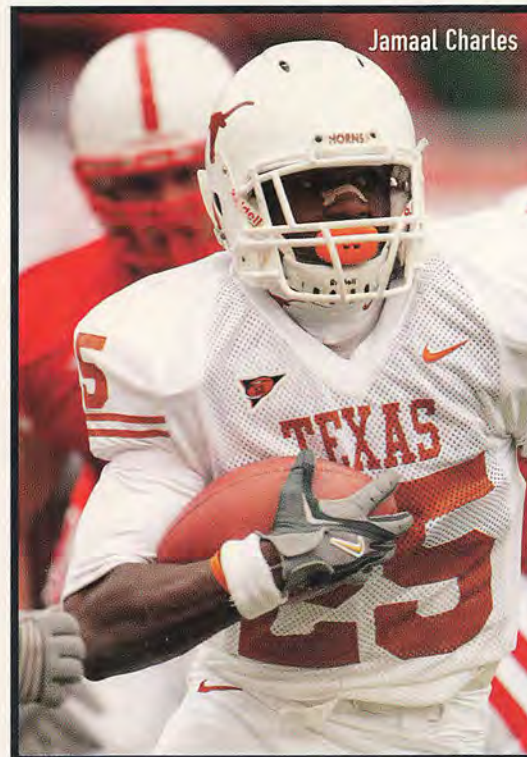
cornerback, is an in-your-face player who figures to challenge for a starting job while contending for kick-return duties. Coaches love his confidence, speed and big-play potential. His size makes him a good matchup for

hulking receivers like OU's Malcolm Kelly and Oklahoma State's Adarius Bowman.



SCOUTING THE LONGHORNS

Opposing coaches size up Texas: "They're talented — they are always going to be talented because Mack Brown does such a great job recruiting and evaluating premier players. But it's kind of a team in transition. The offensive line, which was so physical last year, will miss Justin Blalock and Kasey Studdard. The defensive front will miss guys like Tim Crowder and Brian Robison. The secondary also will not be the same without Aaron Ross and Michael Griffin. ... Of course, with the stockpile of talent they have, you know Mack will plug great athletes into those holes. It's like at running back where they lose Selvin Young, but have Jamaal Charles waiting to have an even bigger breakout season. ... But they don't scare you as much now as they did in the past. Colt McCoy, for example, is a very solid, poised quarterback. He can definitely beat you. But he doesn't scare you like Vince Young did. ... It will be interesting to see how some of their younger athletes fill those holes created by the NFL prospects who just left. If there's a chance to knock them off their pedestal this might be the chance to do it."



Jamaal Charles

KEY LONGHORNS

Colt McCoy, QB

Amazingly accurate passer who filled leadership void left by Vince Young.

Jamaal Charles, RB

New attitude now that he's the man, capable of putting up big numbers.

Limas Sweed, WR

One of the nation's top big-play receivers.

Derek Lokey, DT

Immovable run stopper and leader of the defense.

Tony Hills, T

Vocal leader on offense must help solidify an inexperienced interior line.

KEY LOSSES

Justin Blalock, G

First-team All-American was most talented and versatile lineman.

Kasey Studdard, G

Fiery mauler and leader helped erase UT's soft label.

Aaron Ross, CB

Repeatedly made big plays when Texas needed them most.

Michael Griffin, S

Uncanny punt blocker who led team in tackles last two years.

Tim Crowder, DE

In 2006, became UT's first double-digit sacker (10.5) since 1999.

PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE (7)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 4	Limas Sweed	Sr.
WR 5	Billy Pittman	Sr.
WR 6	Quan Cosby	Jr.
LT 79	Tony Hills	Sr.
LG 52	Charlie Tanner	So.
C 67	Dallas Griffin	Sr.
RG 55	Cedric Dockery	Jr.
RT 74	Adam Ulatoski	So.
TE 16	Jermichael Finley	So.
QB 12	Colt McCoy	So.
RB 25	Jamaal Charles	Jr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 9	Nate Jones	Sr.
WR 8	Jordan Shipley	Jr.
WR 84	George Walker	Jr.
LT 73	J'Marcus Webb	So.
LG 63	Michael Huey	Fr.
C 65	Buck Burnette	Fr.
RG 71	Chris Hall	So.
RT 78	Roy Watts	Fr.
TE 86	Peter Ullman	Jr.
QB 7	John Chiles	Fr.
RB 3	Chris Ogbonnaya	Jr.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE (7)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 95	Aaron Lewis	Jr.
DT 96	Derek Lokey	Sr.
DT 97	Frank Okam	Sr.
DE 98	Brian Orakpo	Jr.
SLB 40	Robert Killebrew	Sr.
MLB 44	Rashad Bobino	Jr.
WLB 38	Rod Muckelroy	So.
CB 28	Brandon Foster	Sr.
CB 13	Ryan Palmer	Jr.
SS 21	Erick Jackson	Sr.
FS 26	Marcus Griffin	Sr.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 37	Henry Melton	Jr.
DT 92	Ben Alexander	So.
DT 99	Roy Miller	Jr.
DE 36	Lamarr Houston	So.
SLB 2	Sergio Kindle	So.
MLB 11	Jared Norton	So.
WLB 33	Scott Derry	Sr.
CB 8	Chykie Brown	Fr.
CB 7	Deon Beasley	So.
SS 12	Robert Joseph	So.
FS 4	Drew Kelson	Sr.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos. No.	Name	Class
K 39	Ryan Bailey	Jr.
P 39	Ryan Bailey	Jr.
KR 6	Quan Cosby	Jr.
PR 6	Quan Cosby	Jr.

Returning Starters In Bold

2007 TEXAS ROSTER

Quarterbacks		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	Defensive Linemen		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
7	Chiles, John	QB	6'2"	197	Fr.	Dallas, TX	92	Alexander, Ben	DT	6'0"	310	So.	Anderson, SC
17	Harris, Sherrod	QB	6'3"	219	Fr.	Arlington, TX	90	Ellis, Brian	DE	6'5"	287	Fr.	Grand Prairie, TX
12	McCoy, Colt	QB	6'3"	205	So.	Tuscola, TX	55	Hinojosa, Rene	DL	6'2"	240	So.	Weslaco, TX
14	Torres, Freddy	QB	6'1"	190	Jr.	Pecos, TX	36	Houston, Lamarr	DE	6'2"	265	So.	Colorado Springs, CO
15	Walker, Trevor	QB	6'2"	195	Fr.	Mount Pleasant, TX	93	Jones, Dre	DT	6'5"	295	Fr.	El Paso, TX
11	Zepeda, Gilbert	QB	6'0"	210	Sr.	Pharr, TX	32	Jones, Eddie	DE	6'3"	260	Fr.	Kilgore, TX
							95	Lewis, Aaron	DE	6'4"	260	Jr.	Albuquerque, NM
Running Backs		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	96	Lokey, Derek	DT	6'2"	280	Sr.	Denton, TX
23	Carvajal, Jaime	RB	5'4"	162	Sr.	Taft, TX	94	Marshall, Thomas	DT	6'6"	290	Sr.	Dallas, TX
25	Charles, Jamaal	RB	6'1"	200	Jr.	Port Arthur, TX	37	Melton, Henry	DE	6'3"	268	Jr.	Grapevine, TX
24	Cobb, Antwan	RB/LB	6'0"	215	Fr.	Pflugerville, TX	52	Michner, Cory	DE	6'0"	215	Jr.	St. Louis, MO
26	Lane, Stephen	RB	6'0"	190	Jr.	Tyler, TX	99	Miller, Roy	DT	6'2"	295	Jr.	Killeen, TX
46	Marcantonio, Drew	FB	6'1"	208	So.	Corpus Christi, TX	97	Okam, Frank	DT	6'5"	320	Sr.	Dallas, TX
2	McGee, Vondrell	RB	5'10"	200	Fr.	Longview, TX	98	Orakpo, Brian	DE	6'4"	248	Jr.	Houston, TX
3	Ogbonnaya, Chris	RB	6'1"	225	Jr.	Missouri City, TX							
45	Redwine, Nic	FB	6'3"	225	Jr.	Tyler, TX	Linebackers		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
40	Spears, Alex	FB	5'6"	200	Jr.	Houston, TX	44	Bobino, Rashad	LB	5'11"	228	Jr.	West Texas City, TX
49	Tiemann, Luke	FB	6'2"	235	Jr.	Pflugerville, TX	43	Campbell, Jeremy	LB	6'2"	228	Jr.	Richardson, TX
22	Whittaker, Foswhitt	RB	5'10"	188	Fr.	Houston, TX	33	Derry, Scott	LB	6'3"	230	Sr.	Pearland, TX
							42	Earnest, Dustin	LB	6'3"	221	Fr.	Texarkana, TX
Receivers		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	40	Killebrew, Robert	LB	6'2"	230	Sr.	Spring, TX
82	Aune, Coy	WR	6'2"	191	Sr.	Austin, TX	2	Kindle, Sergio	LB	6'4"	239	So.	Dallas, TX
6	Cosby, Quan	WR	5'11"	200	Jr.	Mart, TX	59	Kugler, Chad	LB	6'2"	220	So.	Richardson, TX
16	Finley, Jermichael	TE	6'5"	236	So.	Diboll, TX	38	Muckelroy, Roddrick	LB	6'2"	230	So.	Hallsville, TX
87	Hartle, Matt	TE	6'4"	225	Sr.	Isle of Palms, SC	11	Norton, Jared	LB	6'3"	236	So.	Rowlett, TX
9	Jones, Nate	WR	6'2"	195	Sr.	Texarkana, TX	48	Ochoa, Jarrod	LB	5'10"	225	So.	Abilene, TX
18	Marshall, Josh	WR	6'4"	210	Fr.	Arlington, TX							
88	McWhorter, Mac	TE	6'4"	242	So.	Austin, TX	Defensive Backs		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
80	Orr, Daniel	WR	6'0"	180	Sr.	Corsicana, TX	33	Allensworth, James	DB	5'8"	161	So.	Austin, TX
1	Payne, Philip	WR	6'2"	210	Fr.	Garland, TX	7	Beasley, Deon	CB	5'10"	170	So.	Orange, TX
5	Pittman, Billy	WR	6'0"	200	Sr.	Cameron, TX	8	Brown, Chykie	CB	6'1"	180	Fr.	Houston, TX
89	Ruefle, William	TE	6'2"	230	Jr.	Mesquite, TX	3	Brown, Curtis	DB	6'1"	175	Fr.	Gilmer, TX
8	Shipley, Jordan	WR	6'0"	188	Jr.	Burnet, TX	27	Egwuagu, Martin	DB	5'10"	185	So.	Austin, TX
83	Smith, Greg	TE	6'4"	248	Fr.	Montgomery, TX	21	Flath, Michael	S	5'9"	180	Sr.	Arcadia, CA
4	Sweed, Limas	WR	6'5"	219	Sr.	Brenham, TX	28	Foster, Brandon	CB	5'9"	180	Sr.	Arlington, TX
86	Ullman, Peter	TE	6'4"	255	Jr.	Austin, TX	1	Gatewood, Tyrell	S	6'2"	210	Sr.	Tyler, TX
81	Vergari, C.A.	WR	6'3"	205	So.	Bronxville, NY	26	Griffin, Marcus	FS	6'0"	202	Sr.	Austin, TX
84	Walker, George	WR	6'3"	215	Jr.	Houston, TX	30	Henry, James	DB	6'2"	212	Fr.	Schertz, TX
14	Webber, Montre	WR	6'3"	206	Fr.	Hearne, TX	37	Howard, Lawrence	DB	5'10"	168	So.	Hitchcock, TX
							21	Jackson, Erick	S/CB	6'2"	200	Sr.	Cedar Hill, TX
Offensive Linemen		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	12	Joseph, Robert	SS	6'2"	195	So.	Port Arthur, TX
65	Burnette, Buck	OL	6'3"	310	Fr.	Wimberley, TX	4	Kelson, Drew	FS	6'2"	215	Sr.	Houston, TX
57	Carroll, Andrew	OL	6'3"	285	Fr.	Montgomery, TX	29	Martinez, Jorge	DB	6'0"	195	Fr.	Brownsville, TX
55	Dockery, Cedric	G	6'4"	320	Jr.	Garland, TX	24	Moench, Ryan	DB	6'0"	195	Jr.	Austin, TX
67	Griffin, Dallas	C	6'4"	285	Sr.	Katy, TX	19	Oduogwu, Ishie	S	5'10"	205	So.	Denton, TX
71	Hall, Chris	OL	6'4"	295	So.	Irving, TX	13	Palmer, Ryan	CB	5'10"	190	Jr.	Arlington, TX
79	Hills, Tony	T	6'6"	305	Sr.	Houston, TX	5	Wells, Ben	DB	6'1"	185	Fr.	Beaumont, TX
63	Huey, Michael	OL	6'5"	320	Fr.	Kilgore, TX	30	Wieland, Chris	DB	5'9"	170	So.	Cedar Park, TX
72	Mitchell, Britt	T	6'5"	280	Fr.	Kilgore, TX							
75	Moore, Steve	OL	6'5"	296	Fr.	Houston, TX	Specialists		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
68	Oldis, Drew	G	6'4"	282	So.	Boerne, TX	39	Bailey, Ryan	P/K	6'2"	195	Jr.	Austin, TX
52	Tanner, Charlie	G/C	6'4"	295	So.	Austin, TX	17	Gerland, Trevor	P/K	6'2"	190	So.	Katy, TX
54	Taylor, Michael	C	5'11"	240	Jr.	LaMarque, TX	47	Gold, John	P	6'3"	200	So.	Palestine, TX
74	Ulatoski, Adam	T	6'8"	300	So.	Southlake, TX	58	Harvey, William	LS	5'11"	225	Jr.	Houston, TX
78	Watts Jr., Roy	OL	6'6"	315	Fr.	Houston, TX	15	Lawrence, Hunter	K	6'0"	175	So.	Boerne, TX
73	Webb, J'Marcus	OL	6'8"	310	So.	Mesquite, TX	43	Moore, Justin	P/K	6'2"	197	Jr.	Houston, TX

Head Coach: Mack Brown • Record at School: 93–22 (9 years) • Career Record: 179–96–1 (23 years)

Offensive Coordinator: Greg Davis • Co-Defensive Coordinators: Duane Akina, Larry Mac Duff • Austin, Texas

Darrell K Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium (84,997)

2006 INDIVIDUAL STATS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.
Colt McCoy	318	217	2,570	29	7
Jevan Snead	49	26	371	2	2

Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Jamaal Charles	156	831	5.3	7
Selvin Young	137	591	4.3	7

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Limas Sweed	46	801	17.4	12
Quan Cosby	45	525	11.7	2
Billy Pittman	35	456	13.0	4
Jermichael Finley	31	372	12.0	3

Kicking: Ryan Bailey, 6-6 FGs, 17-18 XPs, 35 points; Greg Johnson, 3-6 FGs, 42-43 XPs, 51 points

Tackles: Michael Griffin, 126

Sacks: Tim Crowder, 10.5

Interceptions: Aaron Ross, 6

Returning Players in Bold



OUTSIDE THE HUDDLE

Old friends Larry Mac Duff, Duane Akina's boss as defensive coordinator of the Desert Swarm at Arizona in the early 1990s, was hired as Akina's co-defensive coordinator and linebackers coach.

Keep it simple The defense is keeping the same terminology used by Gene Chizik the last two seasons for continuity.

Full strength Defensive tackle Frank Okam had arthroscopic surgery on his right knee to repair torn cartilage, an injury that bothered him over the final nine games of last season.

Breaking through Running back Jamaal Charles, who saw his average yards per carry drop from 7.4 as a freshman to 5.3 as a sophomore, said he never adjusted to splitting carries with Selvin Young last season. Coaches say Charles looked for too many home runs instead of taking what the defense gave him.

On the move Coaches are happy with Henry Melton as a defensive end after Melton served as a 270-pound running back his first two seasons at Texas, rushing for 16 TDs.

Goal to go Linebacker Sergio Kindle could emerge as the short-yardage running back, the job Melton had the last two years until moving full-time to defensive end late last season.

Home field advantage This year, Longhorns fans attending the Red River Shootout against Oklahoma will sit over the tunnel in the Cotton Bowl as part of a recent contract extension keeping the game in Dallas through the 2010 season. The new agreement allows the home team to choose where it sits.

High IQ Senior Dallas Griffin, the projected starter at center, graduated with a double major of honors business and finance this spring. He finished with a 3.875 GPA and posted a perfect 4.0 during six semesters.

2006 RESULTS

Record: 10-3 (6-2 Big 12)

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Att.
S. 2	North Texas	W	56-7	85,123
S. 9	Ohio State	L	7-24	89,422
S. 16	at Rice	W	52-7	40,069
S. 23	Iowa State	W	37-14	88,972
S. 30	Sam Houston State	W	56-3	88,913
O. 7	at Oklahoma	W	28-10	76,260
O. 14	Baylor	W	63-31	88,966
O. 21	at Nebraska	W	22-20	85,187
O. 28	at Texas Tech	W	35-31	56,158
N. 4	Oklahoma State	W	36-10	89,036
N. 11	at Kansas State	L	42-45	47,933
N. 24	Texas A&M	L	7-12	89,102
D. 30	#Iowa	W	26-24	65,875
	#Alamo Bowl			

Chris Covatta

Marcus Griffin

2007 RECRUITING

Texas got its pick of talent, including most of the state's top offensive linemen and defensive backs, as well as maybe the state's best athlete in quarterback John Chiles. If the Longhorns get their wish, they'll be able to redshirt top offensive line recruits Tray Allen, Michael Huey and Kyle Hix. UT probably can't afford to redshirt defensive backs Curtis Brown and Ben Wells, both early enrollees who went through spring drills and could get playing time this season. Texas needed more help at linebacker and got only one — a good one — in Keenan Robinson. Coaches think tight end Blaine Irby is talented enough to see the field as a freshman. Quarterback G.J. Kinne, a likely redshirt candidate, put up ridiculous numbers at Gilmer High School. His 11,695 yards passing rank third and his 130 TD passes rank second in Texas high school football history. Kinne threw only one interception his senior year. Offensive lineman Matt Nader suffered a heart arrhythmia during his senior season in high school and now has a defibrillator in his chest. He will still attend Texas but won't play football. A medical exemption will keep Nader from counting against UT's allotment of scholarships.

Sam Acho DE 6'3" 250 Dallas, TX
Recorded 12 sacks as a senior. Three-time All-Southwest Preparatory Conference.

Tray Allen T 6'5" 310 Grand Prairie, TX
Named first-team All-USA by *USA Today* and first-team Class 5A All-State by *The AP* and TSWA in '06. Ranked No. 3 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com.

Curtis Brown CB 6'1" 175 Gilmer, TX
Ranked No. 2 cornerback in the nation and No. 4 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com. Named first-team Class 3A All-State by *The AP* and TSWA as a senior.

Russell Carter DE 6'3" 240 Houston, TX
Ranked No. 12 strongside defensive end in country and No. 15 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com. Recorded 139 tackles and 14 sacks as a senior.

Brandon Collins S 6'0" 174 Brenham, TX
Recorded 14 INTs, with four returned for TDs, during HS career.

Ian Harris TE 6'4" 230 San Antonio, TX
Ranked No. 26 tight end in the country by Scout.com.

Tyrell Higgins DT 6'3" 255 Schertz, TX
Recorded 108 tackles, six sacks, two INTs and two forced fumbles as a senior.

Kyle Hix T 6'7" 300 Aledo, TX
Ranked No. 17 offensive tackle in the nation by Rivals.com.

Ahmard Howard TE 6'4" 220 Brenham, TX
Ranked No. 16 tight end in the country and No. 50 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com.

Michael Huey T 6'5" 320 Kilgore, TX
Named Class 4A-District 12 Lineman of the Year and first-team All-State by TSWA.

Blaine Irby TE 6'3" 230 Camarillo, CA
Named Channel League Defensive Player of the Year and California Interscholastic Federation Linebacker of the Year as a senior. Had 82 tackles and two INTs in '06.

Cody Johnson RB 5'11" 230 Waller, TX
Ranked No. 1 fullback in the country and No. 16 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com. Rushed for 1,743 yards, on 9.3 yards per carry, and 21 TDs as a senior; 1,551 yards, on 9.9 yards per carry, and 19 TDs as a junior.

Dre Jones DT 6'5" 295 El Paso, TX
Named second-team All-USA by *USA Today* and Class 4A Defensive Player of the Year by TSWA. Ranked No. 7 defensive tackle in the country by Rivals.com.

G.J. Kinne QB 6'3" 215 Gilmer, TX
Named Class 3A Offensive Player of the Year by *The AP* and TSWA as a senior. Threw for 4,200 yards and 42 TDs; rushed for 1,012 yards and 15 TDs in '06.

SPOTLIGHT ON...JOHN CHILES

Quarterback • 6'2" • 197 • Dallas, Texas

Chiles played only one year of quarterback in high school and figured to play receiver at Texas until backup quarterback Jevan Snead transferred to Ole Miss and John Brantley of Ocala, Fla., switched his commitment from Texas to the Florida Gators. Now, Chiles could become a true shotgun-option quarterback in Texas' zone-read offense as a change of pace to Colt McCoy. Chiles must first beat out redshirt freshman Sherrod Harris to be McCoy's backup. But Chiles showed in the spring he's a more gifted runner than Harris, while both are still a bit rough in the passing game. Coaches are very intrigued by Chiles' upside, considering his limited history at quarterback.

James Kirkendoll WR 5'11" 175 Round Rock, TX
Ranked No. 21 wide receiver in the nation by Scout.com.

Aundre McGaskey G 6'5" 272 La Marque, TX
Ranked No. 10 offensive guard in the country by Scout.com.

Keenan Robinson LB 6'3" 210 Plano, TX
Named first-team All-USA by *USA Today*. Ranked No. 4 outside linebacker in nation and No. 13 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com.

Christian Scott S 6'0" 185 Dallas, TX
Ranked No. 10 safety in the country and No. 16 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com.

Earl Thomas CB 5'10" 183 Orange, TX
Ranked No. 11 cornerback in nation by Scout.com and No. 12 athlete in nation by Rivals.com. Hade five INTs on defense and 25 total TDs on offense as a senior.

Ben Wells CB 6'1" 185 Beaumont, TX
Ranked No. 7 cornerback in the country and No. 12 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com. Named first-team Class 4A All-State by *The AP* and TSWA as a senior.

Foswhitt Whittaker RB 5'10" 188 Houston, TX
Named *Houston Chronicle* MVP, Houston Touchdown Club Offensive Player of the Year and first-team Class 5A All-State by the TSWA as a senior. Ranked No. 6 all-purpose running back in the nation by Rivals.com. Sixth all-time rusher in Class 5A history — with 5,717 yards and 51 TDs during HS career.

Michael Wilcoxson DT 6'3" 285 Willow Park, TX
Named Defensive Player of the Year by the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* and first-team Class 4A All-State by the TSWA as a senior.

Malcolm Williams WR 6'3" 215 Garland, TX
Ranked No. 11 wide receiver in the country by Rivals.com.

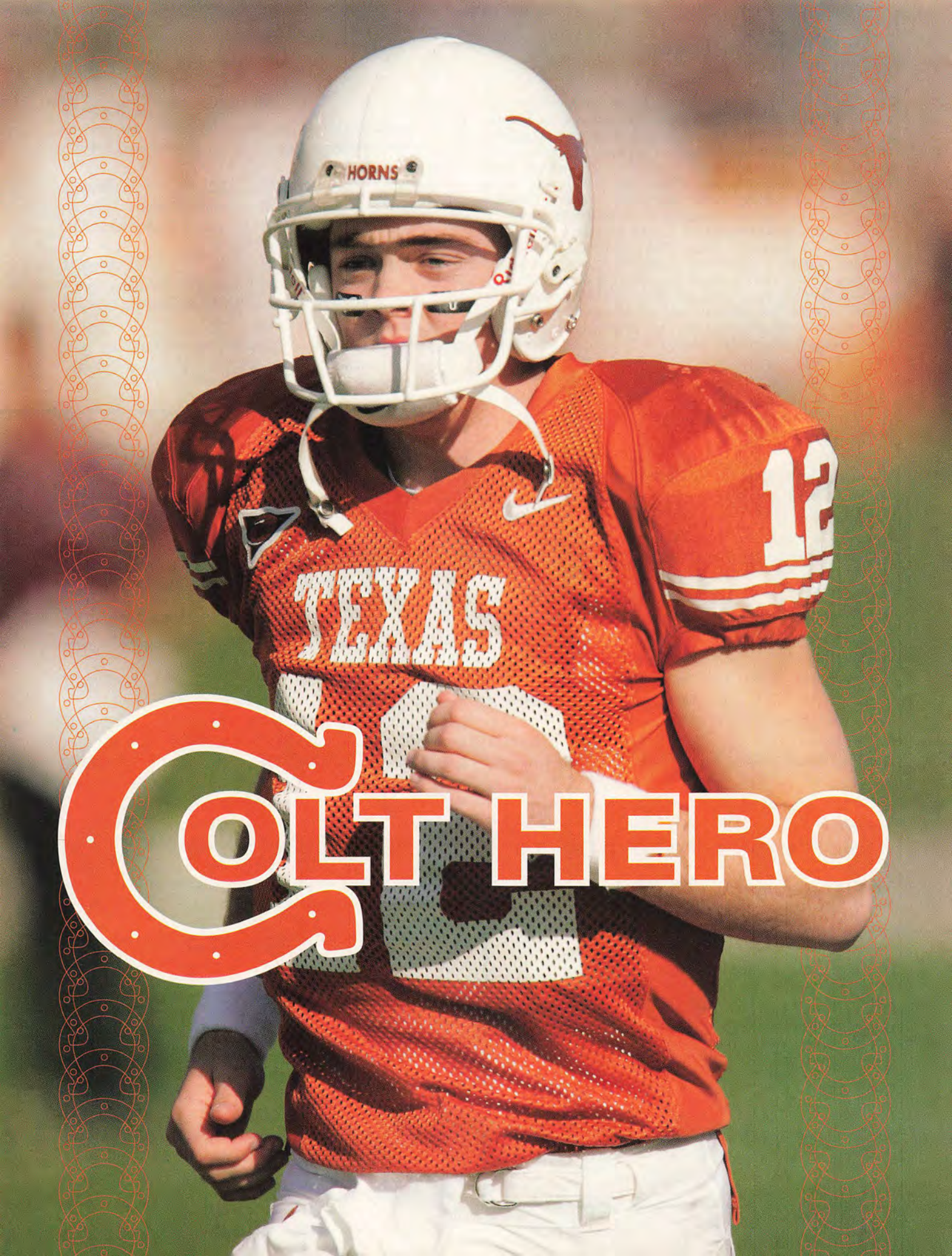
RECRUITING BREAKDOWN

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COLT HERO

A STINGER SUFFERED ON A FIRST-QUARTER, 4TH-AND-GOAL TOUCHDOWN DIVE BY TEXAS' COLT MCCOY ON A FRIGID NIGHT IN MANHATTAN, KAN., LAST NOVEMBER MAY HAVE CUT SHORT ONE OF COLLEGE FOOTBALL'S BEST STORIES IN 2006.

UP TO THAT POINT, THE MILK-LOVING COACH'S SON WHO GREW UP IN RURAL OUTPOSTS ACROSS WEST TEXAS AND LOOKED TOO YOUNG TO DRIVE, LET ALONE REPLACE VINCE YOUNG, HAD DONE THE UNTHINKABLE.

HE HAD REPLACED VINCE YOUNG.

NOT IN TEXAS FANS' HEARTS OR MEMORIES. BUT AS A LEADER ON THE FOOTBALL FIELD.

by Chip Brown

The reddish-haired redshirt freshman earned the respect of fifth-year seniors by proving to be a fearless winner when the game was on the line. There was the huge second-half performance in a 28-10 win against Oklahoma after trailing at intermission. The two critical scoring drives into a horizontal snowstorm in the fourth quarter during a come-from-behind win at Nebraska. And the calm and poise of, well, Young, in a 21-point comeback at Texas Tech.

Through 10 games, the Longhorns were 9-1, No. 5 in the BCS standings and in prime position to make another run at the BCS national title game.

"You never know about a player until you see him face adversity," Texas coach Mack Brown says. "We learned that Colt McCoy has a chance to be a special, special player."

But after running back Selvin Young was stopped twice and McCoy once on goal-to-go from the 1 on Texas' first possession of the K-State game, coaches called McCoy's number again. K-State linebacker Brandon Archer buried his helmet into McCoy's shoulder pad on the touchdown dive, and McCoy could barely hold his head up leaving the field, he was in so much pain.

The defense did nothing to bail out the Longhorns, who went on to lose, 45-42, waxing any BCS hopes and eliminating McCoy from any discussion of a trip to New York as a Heisman Trophy finalist.

Texas suffered its second straight loss 13 days later to Texas A&M as McCoy threw three of his season total of seven interceptions with his arm strength still affected by the stinger. It dropped the Longhorns off the national radar and into the Alamo Bowl (where McCoy threw for 308 yards and two TDs in a 26-24 victory over Iowa).

"I think what was most disappointing was that the team seemed to give out after Colt got hurt," Brown says. "It was like we lost our leader and lost faith. That tells you how important Colt had become from a leadership standpoint."

As Heisman buzz began to swirl around McCoy through that 9-1 start (when he had 27 touchdowns with only four interceptions),

he did what he's always done: thanked God, gulped down a bunch of milk (he gave up soda in sixth grade and won't touch alcohol), talked on the phone with his father and high school coach, Brad, watched a bunch of film with Texas offensive coordinator Greg Davis and went to bed early.

"Colt has sacrificed a lot of things to get where he wanted to go," Brad McCoy says. "He wants to play in the NFL. He has given up a lot socially, the late nights. But he's never given up anything faith-wise for his athletics. His goals have never been higher than his faith."

Even to Brown's surprise, there wasn't the slightest hint of rock star mentality. No signs of trading in playbook time or study hall for the trappings that come with being the star QB at Texas (let your imagination run wild).

McCoy never dreamed of dumping his high school sweetheart, Heather, a sophomore at Texas Tech, even though she wore black instead of burnt orange to the UT-Tech game in Lubbock last season.

Reporters hounded McCoy for the secrets to his success, his 68.2 percent completion rate, his calm under pressure and how he was handling all the attention on campus. His answers never wavered.

"I give all the credit to my coaches and teammates," says McCoy, the first Texas freshman to start and win a season opener since NFL Hall of Famer Bobby Layne did it in 1944. "No one player can do anything without everyone working together."

By the end of the season, media members and fans watching on TV could spit out McCoy's answers before they heard them. But McCoy's anything-but-sexy responses to his growing profile were just what his teammates wanted to hear. In a locker room desperate for leadership following the departure of one of the greatest leaders in college football history, McCoy's predictable, dull-as-dirt quotes might as well have been scream-and-shout sermons electrifying and bonding the Longhorns.

Young had an uncanny ability to keep the focus on his teammates even though his personal highlights could have filled *SportsCenter* every Saturday night. Young's

magic was that he never made it about himself while constantly empowering those around him. As a result, the entire team would crawl on broken glass for the guy — and basically did every game of UT's national title run in 2005.

Now, McCoy was taking the exact same approach. Did McCoy learn from Young's example during his redshirt year? Sure. But McCoy had been preparing for this moment all his life by bringing new meaning to the words "coach's son."

McCoy's athletic ability is better than most, but the reason he was offered a scholarship to Texas was his ability to study defenses and pick them apart with his arm. Colt had basically been in the film room — his family's living room — since he was in sixth grade, watching his father draw up game plans for his high school teams.

"I didn't grasp that it was catching on as much as it was," says Brad McCoy, who coached Colt at Tuscola Jim Ned, where Colt became the all-time leading passer in Class 2A and the sixth overall in Texas prep history.

"But obviously he was catching on early. In a playoff game, as the ball boy, he told me to run a screen because he thought it would work. He's just shown a lot of poise in looking at a field and knowing where the defense is and reading coverages."

Texas recruiting experts have expressed some alarm about the Longhorns' freshman class of 2008, because Brown appears to have passed on a few blue-chippers to take oral commitments from some less-heralded coaches' sons.

Who could blame Brown after the staggering example set by McCoy?

McCoy barely registered on the recruiting buzz meter. He signed at Texas in the spring of 2005, the same year Ryan Perrilloux vowed to come to Austin and show Vince Young how to throw a pass. McCoy has made Texas fans celebrate the day Perrilloux left the Longhorns at the altar and signed with LSU.

"The Texas coaches offered Colt, Mark Sanchez (now at USC) and Ryan Perrilloux on the same day in the spring of their junior year," Brad McCoy says. "They said, 'We think you all are the best three quarterbacks in the nation.' It didn't take Colt long. Whether Mark or Ryan went, it wasn't an issue with Colt. He said, 'If I'm going to a school that's going to compete for the national championship, there are going to be good quarterbacks that I'll have to beat out every year, and I think I can.'"

Does Colt ever think about what might have been, if he had somehow been able to stay healthy and will his team to a 12-1 or 13-1 finish instead of 10-3?

"Those games are in the past, but I do think about it," McCoy says. "Now, I truly believe that what happened last year might have been a necessary stepping stone for this year's team."

That's why his coaches and teammates love him. And why Young told him after the 2006 season that he didn't expect anything less from McCoy.

"That was nice to hear," McCoy says.



Texas A&M coach Dennis Franchione casually begins listing the opponents his team must face on the road during the 2007 season and is asked if he — a long-time Yankees fan — is reminded of the famous 1927 lineup that came to be known as “Murderer’s Row.”

“Nah,” Fran says, “it actually reminds me a lot of the 2005 season.”

Egad! Many A&M fans probably just felt their stomachs turn in a nauseating fashion. The 2005 season, after all, was rather nightmarish for all of Aggieland. It began with high expectations and ended with four straight losses, a 1–4 record in road games and no postseason participation.

But fear not, A&M fans. Franchione says comparisons to the 2005 season start and stop with the rugged road schedule. The ’07 Aggies are a veteran-laden bunch, led by one of the toughest and most poised quarterbacks in the country.

This team may not be good enough defensively to run the road gauntlet without a stumble, but it is explosive and experienced enough to beat any team on the schedule, regardless of the location of the game.

“We know the road schedule and the overall schedule is going to be extremely tough,” says quarterback Stephen McGee. “But there’s no doubt in my mind that we are ready to face that challenge. We’re not going to take a step back; we’re going to build on last year’s momentum.”

Quarterbacks In leading the Aggies to nine wins in his first season as a starter, McGee produced some impressive numbers — throwing for 2,295 yards, 12 touchdowns and only two interceptions in 313 attempts. He also rushed for 666 yards and four scores. It was toughness and tenacity, however, that truly earned his teammates’ trust; it was his intensity that inspired virtually everyone around him; and it’s his insatiable competitive spirit that has become the team’s trademark. McGee is not merely A&M’s quarterback; he’s the team’s commander on the field. “I don’t want any other quarterback in the country. I’ve got the guy I want,” Franchione says. “We’ve got a lot of other good leaders on this team, but when your quarterback plays with the toughness, the grit and heart that he plays with, it permeates to the rest of your team.” But, McGee’s lower-the-shoulder running style and take-on-the-tackler demeanor make him susceptible to injuries. So, the development of talented redshirt freshman Jerrod Johnson will be important. The 6’6” Johnson has received favorable comparisons — at least as far as athleticism and arm strength are concerned — to former Texas quarterback Vince Young. But he is probably not yet ready to be thrown into the fire.



Running Backs The Aggies possess the perfect combination to control the clock and create big plays with their running game. The punishing and powerful Jorvorskie Lane is a 275-pound bulldozer who has remarkably quick feet for his size and outstanding hands as a receiver. Meanwhile, Mike Goodson can flat-out fly. If Goodson breaks into the open field — as he did in key moments of the Texas and Baylor games last season — forget about it. It’s a house call. The explosive Goodson earned honorable mention All-Big 12 honors, rushing for 847 yards and four touchdowns. Lane is practically unstoppable in short-yardage or goal-line situations. The second-team All-Big 12 selection tied a school record with 19 touchdowns, and he often carried defenders over the goal line. “Crash and Flash” represent a potent combination. And fullback Chris Alexander is an excellent blocker who is also a receiving threat out of the backfield — with 11 catches for 78 yards and three scores last year.

NUMBERS GAME

73

The Aggies improved 73 spots in the national rankings in pass defense — going from dead last 117th in 2005 to being ranked 44th in ’06.

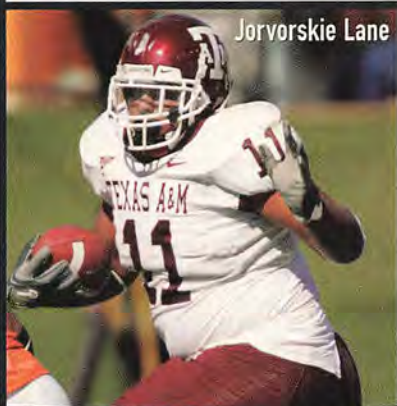
Receivers With the loss of Chad Schroeder and L’Tydrick Riley, the Aggies are not as deep at receiver as they have been in recent years. But A&M still features a couple of proven playmakers and some big-play threats. Senior wideout Earvin Taylor is a big, reliable target who has 52 career receptions and 22 career starts. The Aggies also feature one of the best tight end tandems in the country with superstar Martellus Bennett and the underrated Joey Thomas. Bennett is simply an athletic freak of nature — a punishing blocker and fleet-footed enough to move into the slots. Bennett caught 38 passes for 497 yards and three scores, including a 75-yard catch and run against Baylor. Meanwhile, Thomas is a traditional tight end — a strong blocker with good hands. The rest of the receiving corps is not as proven, but Pierre Brown, Kerry Franks (26.5 yards per reception), Howard Morrow, E.J. Shankle and several other youngsters do feature big-play speed.



Offensive Linemen Led by two returning standout seniors — center Cody Wallace and guard Kirk Elder — this is one of the most experienced and talented offensive lines in school history, even drawing comparisons to the 1998 unit that placed four players (including blocking

A QUICK LOOK AT THE AGGIES

The Aggies went 5–0 last regular season away from Kyle Field, including a major upset of No. 10 Texas in Austin. If A&M can go unscathed on the road again, this team will be in contention for not only a conference title, but also a national crown. The road this year, however, takes A&M to some extremely difficult places to win — Miami, Texas Tech, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Missouri. Still, with a potentially dominant, senior-laden offensive line, an explosive running game, an improving defense and one of the nation’s toughest quarterbacks, the Aggies should be a factor in the race for the league title. A&M’s three conference losses last season came by a combined total of six points. If **Stephen McGee** can stay healthy and the passing game can continue to evolve, the offense should continue to eat up clock and keep A&M within striking distance in any game. The Aggies did a remarkable job of protecting the football last season, but they need to cause a few more turnovers defensively. And a team that played so many close games must have confidence in its placekicker. **Matt Szymanski** has the skills to be a premier kicker, but only time will tell if he has overcome the jitters that plagued him last season.



Jorvorskie Lane

2007 SCHEDULE

S. 1	Montana State	W
S. 8	Fresno State	W
S. 15	UL Monroe	W
S. 20	at Miami	*
S. 29	Baylor	W
O. 6	Oklahoma State	*
O. 13	at Texas Tech	W
O. 20	at Nebraska	*
O. 27	Kansas	W
N. 3	at Oklahoma	L
N. 10	at Missouri	W
N. 23	Texas	L

*Games in bold represent games crucial to the season.
W or L indicates a projected win or loss



Texas A&M QB
Stephen McGee

tight end Dan Campbell) in the NFL and paved the way to the Aggies' only Big 12 title. In Wallace, Elder, Yemi Babalola and Corey Clark, the Aggies return four seasoned veterans up front who are capable, as a unit, of controlling the line of scrimmage. "I think you (want to take advantage of this unit)," Franchione says. "We have been developing this group for a long time, and it won't look the same next year. I think by August, four of the five starters will all squat over 700 pounds. That's a strong group."

Defensive Linemen A&M returns only two starters from last year's Holiday Bowl lineup, but don't be deceived. This is an experienced, solid unit, beginning with prime NFL prospect Red Bryant, who missed the Holiday Bowl with a knee injury. Former reserves Cyril Obiozor, Michael Bennett and Henry Smith appear to be primed to step into the spotlight. Obiozor made 37 stops, Bennett added 27 and Smith contributed 22 tackles last season. Sophomore Kellen Heard is a beast at one tackle, although he must prove he can control his emotions on

the field. The real star of this unit, however, is senior end Chris Harrington. Despite playing much of last season with an injured shoulder, Harrington led the team in tackles for a loss (11.5) and sacks (7.5). Like McGee on offense, Harrington's non-stop motor epitomized the never-say-die attitude of the entire team.

Linebackers A year ago, junior college transfers Mark Dodge and Misi Tupe were unknowns. Now, they are key cogs in A&M's defense. Tupe (54 tackles) was the Big 12 Defensive Newcomer of the Year, while Dodge (51 stops) emerged as a playmaker deluxe, making two huge plays in the 12-7 win over Texas. The Aggies also feature some talented young linebackers, namely sophomores Matt Featherston and Anthony Lewis. "Keep an eye on Lewis," Elder says. "He was slowed early last year by an injury, but he's big (6'2", 244), and he will flat-out knock you on your butt. He's a big hitter, and he's going to make some major contributions."

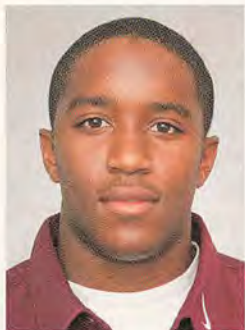
Defensive Backs A&M improved from 117th nationally in pass defense in '05 to 44th in '06. With three returning starters in the secondary, the improvements should continue. Juniors Danny Gorrer and Devin Gregg are solid, seasoned performers, while sophomore cornerback Jordan Peterson and sophomore Jordan Pugh, who moved from cornerback to rover, have star potential. Alton Dixon, Arkeith Brown and Marquis Carpenter give the Aggies a deep and talented defensive backfield.

Specialists Punter Justin Brantly was often spectacular as a sophomore, averaging 44.3 yards per punt (10th nationally), and the kickoff return tandem of Franks and Brown helped the Aggies improve from No. 109 in the country in '05 to third in kickoff return average (26.1) in '06. The concern is placekicker Matt Szymanski, who lost his role after missing three of his first four field goal attempts. But Szymanski, who skipped his senior year in high school to enroll at A&M, should feel much more comfortable as a sophomore.



RISING STAR

Jordan Pugh played sparingly as a true freshman last year, posting two tackles in 13 games. But the fleet-footed sophomore appears to be ready for a breakout season in '07 after moving from cornerback to rover. "We'd take five more



Jordan Pughs in the secondary," coach Dennis Franchione says.

SCOUTING THE AGGIES

Opposing coaches size up Texas A&M: "I think they've turned the corner and are back among some of the elite teams in the league. I was stunned by what Cal did to them in the Holiday Bowl because they were really physical in the Big 12, trading punches with everyone they played. You might just attribute that Holiday Bowl collapse to 'happy-to-be-there' syndrome. ... The defense is vastly improved under Gary Darnell, although you still find yourself looking for those trademark, ball-hawking linebackers. ... The defensive front is really solid. ... The offense has no noticeable weaknesses. Stephen McGee is so steady at quarterback, and those running backs will wear a defense down. They sometimes get bogged down in running the option, but they will lull you to sleep and break a big play to make a defense pay. ... Their offensive line has practically everyone back, and they are quite content to pound the ball down your throat. ... Their receivers don't strike fear in you, but (tight end) Martellus Bennett does. I don't think they will fall off like they did two years ago."

KEY AGGIES

Stephen McGee, QB

Hard-nosed, iron-willed leader of the offense does whatever it takes.

Chris Harrington, DE

He's practically the equivalent of McGee on the other side of ball.

Martellus Bennett, TE

The flamboyant Bennett is a threat anywhere on the field.

Kirk Elder, G

He bleeds maroon and leaves opponents bloodied.

Mike Goodson, RB

There's fast, and there's Mike Goodson fast.

KEY LOSSES

Chad Schroeder, WR

Led the team with 39 catches and four TDs last season.

Justin Warren, LB

Athletic linebacker led the team with 93 tackles in 2006.

Melvin Bullitt, S

Vocal leader of the secondary.

L'Tydrick Riley, WR

Great team guy who overcame numerous injuries to catch 23 passes as a senior.

Jason Jack, DE

Gave up his senior year for NFL Draft.

PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE (8)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 2	Earvin Taylor	Sr.
WR 8	Kerry Franks	Sr.
QT 71	Yemi Babalola	Jr.
QG 64	Kirk Elder	Sr.
C 70	Cody Wallace	Sr.
SG 51	Chris Yoder	Sr.
ST 54	Corey Clark	Sr.
TE 13	Martellus Bennett	Jr.
QB 7	Stephen McGee	Jr.
FB 24	Chris Alexander	Sr.
TB 11	Jorvorskie Lane	Jr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 20	Michael Corey	Sr.
WR 5	Howard Morrow	Jr.
QT 75	Travis Schneider	Jr.
QG 74	Lee Grimes	So.
C 63	Kevin Matthews	So.
SG 76	Michael Shumard	So.
ST 79	Robbie Frost	So.
TE 81	Joey Thomas	Sr.
QB 1	Jerrold Johnson	Fr.
FB 43	Jodie Richardson	So.
TB 3	Mike Goodson	So.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE (6)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 92	Chris Harrington	Sr.
NT 95	Henry Smith	Sr.
DT 85	Red Bryant	Sr.
DE 49	Cyril Obiozor	Jr.
LB 50	Mark Dodge	Sr.
LB 37	Misi Tupe	Sr.
ROV 25	Jordan Pugh	So.
CB 4	Danny Gorrer	Jr.
CB 27	Jordan Peterson	So.
SS 9	Alton Dixon	Jr.
FS 26	Devin Gregg	Jr.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE	Amos Gbunblee	Jr.
NT 91	Kellen Heard	So.
DT 84	Chris Smith	Jr.
DE 11	Michael Bennett	Jr.
LB 46	Matt Featherston	So.
LB 36	Anthony Lewis	So.
ROV 15	Kenny Brown	Fr.
CB 18	Arkeith Brown	Jr.
CB 13	Marquis Carpenter	Sr.
SS 30	Chevar Bryson	So.
FS 41	DeMaurier Thompson	Fr.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos. No.	Name	Class
K 7	Matt Szymanski	So.
P 16	Justin Brantly	Jr.
KR 8	Kerry Franks	Sr.
PR 1	Johnathan Batson	Sr.

Returning Starters In Bold

2007 TEXAS A&M ROSTER

Quarterbacks					POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	Defensive Linemen				POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
1	Ivey, Chris	QB	6'2"	182	Fr.	DeSoto, TX	11	Bennett, Michael	DE	6'4"	263	Jr.	Alief, TX					
	Johnson, Jerrod	QB	6'6"	223	Fr.	Humble, TX	85	Bryant, Red	DT	6'5"	324	Sr.	Jasper, TX					
	Jordan, Micah	QB	6'3"	190	Fr.	Grapevine, TX	40	Cantu, Jarrett	DL	6'2"	230	So.	McAllen, TX					
	McGee, Stephen	QB	6'3"	208	Jr.	Burnet, TX	69	Carson, Evan	DL	5'11"	221	So.	Allen, TX					
	Sanders, T.J.	QB	6'3"	206	Sr.	Goddard, KS	93	Freene, Paul	DL	6'3"	252	So.	Houston, TX					
18	Tannehill, Ryan	QB	6'4"	210	Fr.	Big Spring, TX		Gbunblee, Amos	DE	6'5"	250	Jr.	Cypress, TX					
10	Wood, Jeff	QB	6'5"	210	So.	Houston, TX		Hagar, Grant	DL	6'0"	195	So.	San Antonio, TX					
Running Backs					POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	92	Harrington, Chris	DE	6'5"	267	Sr.	Houston, TX		
24	Alexander, Chris	FB	5'11"	242	Sr.	Humble, TX	91	Heard, Kellen	NT	6'6"	330	So.	Wharton, TX					
22	Cooper, Latrael	RB	6'0"	217	Fr.	Cuero, TX	49	Obiozor, Cyril	DE	6'5"	257	Jr.	Pearland, TX					
3	Goodson, Mike	RB	6'0"	192	So.	Klein, TX	84	Smith, Chris	DT	6'4"	260	Jr.	Allen, TX					
11	Lane, Jorvorskie	RB	6'0"	275	Jr.	Lufkin, TX	95	Smith, Henry	NT	6'3"	307	Sr.	Aliceville, AL					
38	O'Bryant, Ryan	RB	5'11"	227	So.	Houston, TX	97	Williams, Cody	DL	6'4"	238	Fr.	Longview, TX					
43	Richardson, Jodie	FB	6'0"	233	So.	Duncanville, TX	80	Williams, Vincent	DL	6'4"	300	So.	Dallas, TX					
26	Smith, Keondra	RB	5'9"	214	So.	Tyler, TX	Linebackers				POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown			
23	Tarrant, Cornell	RB	6'0"	192	Fr.	Dallas, TX	50	Dodge, Mark	LB	6'2"	222	Sr.	Yerington, NV					
32	Taylor, Samson	RB	6'0"	205	Jr.	The Woodlands, TX	53	Dumas, Derek	LB	6'1"	220	So.	Crawford, TX					
	Vela, Anthony	RB	5'10"	222	Fr.	Round Rock, TX	46	Featherston, Matt	LB	6'3"	240	So.	Poughkeepsie, NY					
Receivers					POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	55	LaMantia, Nick	LB	6'1"	227	Jr.	Mission, TX		
13	Bennett, Martellus	TE	6'7"	248	Jr.	Alief, TX	36	Lewis, Anthony	LB	6'2"	244	So.	Haltom City, TX					
88	Beyer, Cody	WR	6'1"	180	So.	San Antonio, TX	56	McKay, Tim	LB	6'0"	216	Sr.	Texas City, TX					
	Brawley, Blaine	WR	5'11"	175	So.	Denison, TX	59	Metzger, Mark	LB	6'3"	234	Fr.	Missouri City, TX					
85	Brown, Jeremy	WR	6'2"	205	So.	Fort Worth, TX		Randall, Gary	LB	6'0"	207	Fr.	Buckholts, TX					
6	Brown, Pierre	WR	6'2"	200	Jr.	Duncanville, TX		Renfro, Colby	LB	5'11"	213	Jr.	Rockwall, TX					
87	Cafilisch, Chris	WR	6'2"	182	Fr.	San Antonio, TX		Riewe, Dustin	LB	6'0"	224	Jr.	Elgin, TX					
80	Calloway, Lorenzo	WR	5'9"	171	Jr.	Houston, TX	37	Tupe, Misi	LB	5'10"	250	Sr.	St. George, UT					
20	Corey, Michael	WR	6'4"	209	Sr.	Delta, UT	Defensive Backs				POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown			
8	Franks, Kerry	WR	5'11"	196	Sr.	Orange, TX	8	Almaraz, Matthew	DB	5'10"	194	Jr.	San Antonio, TX					
	Jackson, Randle	WR	6'2"	189	So.	Alief, TX	1	Batson, Johnathan	DB	6'1"	190	Sr.	San Antonio, TX					
98	Key, Andrew	TE	6'4"	238	So.	Dallas, TX	3	Bitner, Ben	DB	5'5"	166	Sr.	Round Rock, TX					
	Marburger, Colin	WR	6'3"	202	Fr.	Wimberley, TX	18	Brown, Arkeith	CB	5'11"	170	Jr.	El Campo, TX					
4	McCoy, Jamie	WR	6'3"	224	So.	Midland, TX	28	Brown, Japhus	DB	5'11"	199	Sr.	Edna, TX					
83	McCoy, Terrence	WR	6'4"	195	Fr.	Midland, TX	15	Brown, Kenny	ROV	6'2"	194	Fr.	Oklahoma City, OK					
5	Morrow, Howard	WR	6'0"	205	Jr.	Keller, TX	30	Bryson, Chevar	SS	6'0"	185	So.	Midland, TX					
	Multer, Cory	TE	6'1"	230	So.	Garden City, TX	13	Carpenter, Marquis	CB	6'0"	179	Sr.	Melbourne, FL					
82	Perry, Antonio	WR	6'2"	171	So.	Hammond, LA	9	Dixon, Alton	SS	5'11"	200	Jr.	Lufkin, TX					
9	Shankle, E.J.	WR	5'11"	177	So.	Lufkin, TX	45	Farrell, Rawley	DB	6'0"	193	Sr.	East Bernard, TX					
2	Taylor, Earvin	WR	6'3"	228	Sr.	Mission, TX		Genaidy, Alex	DB	6'0"	199	Fr.	Frisco, TX					
81	Thomas, Joey	TE	6'5"	250	Sr.	Austin, TX	34	Gold, Marcus	DB	5'7"	180	So.	Irving, TX					
91	Vaughan, Ryan	TE	6'4"	240	Jr.	Colleyville, TX	48	Gooch, Weston	DB	6'0"	197	So.	Salado, TX					
84	Williamson, Drew	WR	6'2"	194	Jr.	Southlake, TX	4	Gorrer, Danny	CB	6'0"	178	Jr.	Port Arthur, TX					
Offensive Linemen					POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	26	Gregg, Devin	FS	6'0"	195	Jr.	Spring, TX		
71	Babalola, Yemi	T	6'4"	298	Jr.	Bryan, TX		Harris, John	DB	5'10"	163	Fr.	Arlington, TX					
54	Clark, Corey	T	6'6"	317	Sr.	Spring Branch, TX	31	Harris, Will	DB	6'1"	206	Jr.	Lakewood, OH					
64	Elder, Kirk	G	6'5"	298	Sr.	Klein, TX	19	Hewitt, Charles	DB	6'0"	210	So.	Richmond, TX					
73	Ferguson, Price	OL	6'2"	285	Fr.	Katy, TX	29	Hodge, Stephen	DB	6'1"	225	Sr.	Richardson, TX					
79	Frost, Robbie	T	6'6"	308	So.	Houston, TX	22	Karr, Jeff	DB	5'10"	195	Jr.	Richardson, TX					
62	Gray, Chance	OL	5'11"	260	Fr.	Allen, TX		Kindrick, Kristopher	DB	6'0"	183	Fr.	Houston, TX					
74	Grimes, Lee	G	6'6"	310	So.	Brownwood, TX	24	Kociuba, Tyler	DB	6'0"	190	So.	Liberty Hill, TX					
63	Matthews, Kevin	C	6'4"	300	So.	Sugar Land, TX	21	Latham, David	DB	6'2"	200	Jr.	Colleyville, TX					
78	Patterson, Lucas	OL	6'5"	306	Fr.	Kingsville, TX	27	Peterson, Jordan	CB	5'10"	186	So.	Lexington, TX					
68	Pennington, Eric	OL	6'4"	315	Fr.	Houston, TX	25	Pugh, Jordan	ROV	5'11"	190	So.	Piano, TX					
56	Rankin, Matt	OL	6'2"	255	Fr.	Houston, TX		Roy, Charles	DB	5'11"	175	Fr.	Richmond, TX					
69	Raschke, Craig	OL	6'5"	231	Fr.	Brownwood, TX	33	Smith, Lionel	DB	6'0"	175	Fr.	Houston, TX					
60	Russell, Josh	OL	6'4"	328	So.	Waxahachie, TX	41	Thompson, DeMaurier	FS	6'1"	175	Fr.	Dallas, TX					
75	Schneider, Travis	T	6'8"	295	Jr.	Bellville, TX	39	Urban, Caleb	DB	6'1"	200	Fr.	Victoria, TX					
76	Shumard, Michael	G	6'5"	305	So.	Fort Hood, TX	Specialists				POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown			
70	Wallace, Cody	C	6'4"	294	Sr.	Cuero, TX	27	Bean, Richie	P/K	6'0"	180	Jr.	Marrero, LA					
66	Walter, Philip	OL	6'3"	240	Fr.	Austin, TX	16	Brantly, Justin	P	6'4"	228	Jr.	Sealy, TX					
	Whitmer, Ryan	OL	6'1"	242	Fr.	Kilgore, TX	47	Davis, Cory	LS	6'1"	247	Jr.	Conroe, TX					
51	Yoder, Chris	G	6'3"	299	Sr.	Houston, TX	52	Gibas, Corey	LS	5'11"	215	So.	Covina, CA					
							7	Szymanski, Matt	K	6'1"	188	So.	College Station, TX					

Head Coach: Dennis Franchione • Record at School: 25-23 (4 years) • Career Record: 180-95-2 (24 years)
Offensive Coordinator: Les Koenning, Jr. • Defensive Coordinator: Gary Darnell • College Station, Texas • Kyle Field (82,600)

2006 INDIVIDUAL STATS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.
Stephen McGee	313	194	2,295	12	2
Ty Branyon	12	6	98	1	1

Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Mike Goodson	127	847	6.7	4
Jorvorskie Lane	166	725	4.4	19
Stephen McGee	146	666	4.6	4

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Chad Schroeder	39	612	15.7	4
Martellus Bennett	38	497	13.1	3
L'Tydrick Riley	23	238	10.3	0

Kicking: Layne Neumann, 12-15 FGs, 23-25 XPs, 59 points

Tackles: Justin Warren, 93; Melvin Bullitt, 82

Sacks: Chris Harrington, 7.5

Interceptions: Four players tied with 2

Returning Players in Bold



OUTSIDE THE HUDDLE

Death traps Since the start of the Big 12 in 1996, the Aggies have traveled to Texas Tech, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Missouri — the four conference road opponents on this year's schedule — a combined 14 times. A&M is 2-12 in those trips. A&M hasn't won at Tech since '93 and has not won at Nebraska since 1955, when Bear Bryant was the Aggies' coach.

Short-yardage stud The Aggies converted 50.3 percent of third-down conversions in 2006, thanks in large part to the "J-Train," Jorvorskie Lane. The bruising Lane produced either a first down or a touchdown 26 times on 29 third-down or fourth-down carries.

New digs A&M was able to conduct its first practices inside its new indoor practice facility, the McFerrin Athletic Center, during its preparations for the Holiday Bowl. But it will be during August and September when the new facility will truly be put to its full use. "The benefits will be immeasurable," Franchione says. "With the summer heat, we will be able to do so much more because of the new facility."

Winners The A&M basketball team's run to the Sweet 16 in the 2007 NCAA Tournament makes the football coaches' jobs easier, Franchione says. It does not, as some have suggested, put added heat on the football team. "Winning begets winning," Fran says. "You feed off each other. I think the athletes feed off each other and recruits feed off of it. My first year here when (the men's basketball team was) 0-16, we (as football coaches) were like, 'Do we take recruits to the game or not?' Back then, most of our kids went to the first half, and they would leave after halftime. Now, they go and they want to stay for the whole game. The recruits get into it and enjoy the atmosphere."

Ball security A&M's 13 turnovers in 2006 (nine fumbles, four interceptions) tied the school record for fewest in a season — originally set in 2004.

2006 RESULTS

Record: 9-4 (5-3 Big 12)

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Att.
S. 2	The Citadel	W	35- 3	70,104
S. 9	UL Lafayette	W	51- 7	67,079
S. 16	Army	W	28-24	64,583
S. 23	Louisiana Tech	W	45-14	68,563
S. 30	Texas Tech	L	27-31	85,97
O. 7	at Kansas	W	21-18	46,445
O. 14	Missouri	W	25-19	71,136
O. 21	at Oklahoma State	(ot) W	34-33	43,006
O. 28	at Baylor	W	31-21	51,385
N. 4	Oklahoma	L	16-17	85,697
N. 11	Nebraska	L	27-28	83,336
N. 24	at Texas	W	12- 7	89,102
D. 28	#California	L	10-45	62,395
	#Holiday Bowl			

Chris Harrington

2007 RECRUITING

Texas A&M didn't make much national noise last February, as some recruiting services balked at the Aggies' 2007 class. But that was probably because of a lack of size, not a lack of quality. The 18 signees represented Dennis Franchione's smallest recruiting class since arriving in Aggieland.

"When we started out with only 13 scholarships, one of our guidelines we tried to follow was to sign athletic guys who can hopefully play more than one position," he says.

The Aggies did just that, signing "athletes" Billy Chavis, Garrick Williams and Charles Young, who could eventually wind up playing several positions. A&M also found some versatility in Ben Bass, who could play on either side of the line of scrimmage, and Harold Turnage, who could play either tight end or defensive end.

The headliner was Bradley Stephens, a high school All-American who brought sizzle to the class. While Stephens was the head-turner on offense, A&M's ability to land defensive standouts Derrick Stephens and Von Miller could be the key to the ultimate success of the class. Stephens, a linebacker, is a big-time hitter, while Miller, a defensive end, has impressive speed on the edge.

Frank Avery TE 6'5" 220 Galveston, TX
Ranked No. 31 tight end in the nation and No. 63 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com.

Danny Baker T 6'5" 293 Sugar Land, TX
Named All-Greater Houston Area by the *Houston Chronicle*. Allowed one sack in '06.

Ben Bass DE 6'4" 274 Plano, TX
Ranked No. 26 defensive end in the country by Rivals.com and No. 34 prospect in Texas by Scout.com. Named second-team Class 5A All-State by the TSWA.

Billy Chavis LB 6'5" 231 Beaumont, TX
Recorded 98 tackles, five sacks and four forced fumbles on defense as a senior; rushed for 995 yards and nine TDs on offense as a junior. Ranked No. 30 prospect in Texas by Scout.com. Member of *Port Arthur News* Super Team.

Michael Ebbitt DE 6'4" 244 Westlake Village, CA
Ranked No. 24 defensive end in the country and No. 44 prospect in California by Rivals.com. Member of undefeated Oaks Christian HS team that finished the '06 season ranked No. 6 in the country by *USA Today*.

Evan Eike G 6'4" 320 Bryan, TX
Named second-team Class 5A All-State by TSWA. Ranked No. 43 offensive guard in the nation by Scout.com. Registered 147 knockdown blocks as a senior.

Roger Holland WR 5'10" 175 Houston, TX
Had 49 catches for 801 yards and nine TDs as a senior; 41 catches for 620 yards and six TDs as a junior; 21 catches for 440 yards and six TDs as a sophomore. Named All-District 17-Class 5A for Division II in both football and baseball.

Brandon Joiner DE 6'2" 231 Killeen, TX
Recorded 93 tackles, seven sacks and three forced fumbles as a senior; 87 tackles, four sacks and one INT returned for a TD as a junior. Named Defensive MVP of the U.S. Army All-American Combine. Ranked No. 25 weakside linebacker in the country by Rivals.com and No. 45 defensive end in the country by Scout.com.

Von Miller DE 6'3" 218 DeSoto, TX
Named District 8-Class 5A Defensive MVP as a senior. Ranked No. 6 middle linebacker in the nation by Scout.com and No. 15 weakside linebacker in the nation by Rivals.com. Ranked No. 29 prospect in Texas by Scout.com and Rivals.com.

Bradley Stephens RB 5'10" 200 McAllen, TX
Named second-team All-USA by *USA Today*. Finished HS career as No. 2 rusher in Class 5A history with 7,803 yards. Named first-team Class 5A All-State in '05 and '06. Rushed for 1,875 yards and 23 TDs as a senior; 2,633 yards and 34 TDs as a junior; 1,645 yards and 21 TDs as a sophomore; 1,650 yards and 16 TDs as a freshman. Ranked No. 12 running back in nation and No. 22 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com.

SPOTLIGHT ON...LIONEL SMITH

Cornerback • 6'0" • 175 • Houston, TX

If cornerback Lionel Smith's career at A&M is half as compelling as his journey to Aggieland, his life story may one day end up on Hollywood's big screen. He's a Hurricane Katrina transplant, and he has already tackled more imposing obstacles than any opponent can provide. In late August 2005, Smith was preparing for his senior season at Louisiana's St. Bernard High school outside of New Orleans. At that time, the quarterback was hoping a big senior year might attract the attention of Division I-A powerhouses.

After Katrina's storm surge breached New Orleans' levees, Smith and his family no longer had a house in their state. Smith and his family ended up in Bellaire, a suburb of Houston. But because of paperwork delays, he was only able to play four games as a senior, earning all-district honors despite limited playing time. "I had very little knowledge about A&M before Katrina, but it just worked out that everything fell into place," says Smith, who went through spring drills with the Aggies. "This has been an exciting time for me because I was able to sign with A&M and my family is back in St. Bernard rebuilding our home."

Derrick Stephens LB 6'2" 228 Houston, TX
Ranked No. 4 strong-side linebacker in the country and No. 11 prospect in Texas by Scout.com. Named first-team Class 5A All-State and first-team All-Greater Houston. Recorded 121 tackles, with 18 for a loss, as a senior and 106 tackles as a junior.

Ryan Tannehill QB 6'4" 210 Big Spring, TX
Ranked No. 21 dual-threat quarterback in nation by Rivals.com. Threw for 1,258 yards and rushed for 617 yards as a senior; threw for 1,410 yards and rushed for 822 yards as a junior. Enrolled at Texas A&M in January '07.

Nick Trice WR 6'1" 200 Harker Heights, TX
Played freshman and sophomore seasons at Heidelberg American HS in Germany. Missed junior season with knee injury. Named honorable mention Class 5A All-State as a senior. Ranked No. 40 prospect in Texas by Scout.com.

Harold Turnage TE 6'4" 240 Houston, TX
Ranked No. 50 tight end in the nation by Scout.com.

Brandon Williams QB 6'2" 215 Beaumont, TX
Named District 22-Class 4A MVP by TSWA and Offensive Player of the Year by the *Beaumont Enterprise*. Ranked No. 26 prospect in Texas, No. 26 athlete in the country and named first-team All-Greater Houston Area by Rivals.com. Threw for 1,305 yards and 11 TDs; rushed for 1,394 yards and 16 TDs as a senior.

Garrick Williams WR 6'2" 217 DeSoto, TX
Recorded 25 catches for 436 yards and three TDs as a senior.

Charles Young LB 6'2" 210 Mamou, LA
Ranked No. 36 prospect in Louisiana and No. 42 inside linebacker in the nation by Rivals.com. Registered 98 tackles and four fumble recoveries as a senior; 57 tackles, six forced fumbles, three fumble recoveries and one INT as a junior.

RECRUITING BREAKDOWN

By Position

Defensive Ends	4
Linebackers	3
Wide Receivers	3
Offensive Linemen.....	2
Quarterbacks.....	2
Tight Ends	2
Defensive Backs	1
Running Backs	1

By State

Texas	16
California	1
Louisiana	1

It's no secret that eccentric Texas Tech coach Mike Leach is enamored — maybe even obsessed — by pirates. He studies them, regularly references them in conversations and collects pirate memorabilia. Leach makes his living on the South Plains, but he often seems to be fixated on the high seas.

Perhaps that's why he so enjoys playing the role of Captain Hook, threatening to yank even his biggest stars right out of the lineup. Take record-setting quarterback Graham Harrell, for example. Despite the fact that Harrell threw for 4,555 yards and 38 touchdowns last season, Leach made it a point in the spring to tell the media that it wasn't a forgone conclusion that Harrell would be the starter in '07.

Leach said Harrell had been a little too relaxed for his liking. It was probably a mind game or, in Leach's case, a skull game.

And regarding leading returning rusher Shannon Woods, Leach said: "He could certainly get beat out."

Ditto for the returning interceptions leader in the roster, Darcel McBath. Said Leach: "Darcel better watch out for some of the younger guys we're bringing in."

Meanwhile, Leach seems utterly unconcerned that his offensive line, defensive line and receiving corps from last year have been decimated by graduation. "We'll be fine in those areas," he says. "Most of those guys work better than the guys they are replacing because some of the guys we had last year were too comfortable."

It's difficult to determine whether Leach's swashbuckling tone is how he really feels or is merely an act designed to right the ship of a Tech team that appears to be in transition. The Raiders return only nine starters from a team that established an NCAA record for the largest comeback in bowl-game history.

But if there is one thing Leach has proven in his first seven years, it's that there is a method to his madness. Tech has gone to seven straight bowl games under Leach, and, even with many uncertainties, there's no reason to believe that this year will be any different. This does not have the look of a conference title contender, but keep an eye on the Raiders. They're quite capable of plundering a number of their '07 opponents.

Quarterbacks Despite the message that Leach delivered in the spring, it would be shocking if Harrell didn't return to his role as the Raiders' starting quarterback. And it would be rather surprising if the junior didn't rank among the nation's passing leaders, which is practically a birthright of any starting quarterback at Tech. Harrell was the first non-senior starter at quarterback for the Raiders since Kliff Kingsbury, and although he had a few shaky moments in

'06, he finished with a flurry. He passed for 519 yards against Texas in late October and threw for 445 yards in the improbable comeback win over Minnesota in the Insight Bowl. "Graham is a tremendous leader," Tech safety Joe Garcia says. "He was really good last year, but he's even more comfortable heading into this season. With a year under his belt, I think he will be unbelievably good. He's just going to get better and better." Redshirt freshman Taylor Potts performed well in the spring practices. But unless the composed Harrell goes down with an injury, Potts will be spending the 2007 season on the sideline.

NUMBERS GAME

4,803

Texas Tech threw for 4,803 yards last year. But it wasn't enough to lead the nation, as Hawaii

threw for 6,178 yards, relegating the Raiders to second nationally.

Running Backs All Shannon Woods did as a sophomore was lead the team in rushing (926 yards) and lead the league in all-purpose yardage per game (139) while also contributing 75 receptions for 572 yards. Woods combines excellent speed and surprising power. In Tech's pass-first offensive attack, he produced seven games of more than 80 rushing yards. Still, Leach wasn't impressed with his work ethic, saying: "I think (Woods) did some good things last year, but it's a situation where in order to maintain your spot, you need to constantly focus. You don't get any points from last year's stats." At the end of the spring, Leach relegated Woods to third team, behind Kobey Lewis and walk-on Ryan Hayes. But remember — Leach was also displeased with Woods' spring in '06, and we saw the results in the fall.

Receivers Tech must replace Joel Filani and Robert Johnson, its top two receivers who combined for 24 touchdowns and more than 2,100 yards last year. So, naturally, Leach says, "I think we could be better at receiver; I thought we underachieved at receiver last year." Here again, it's difficult to determine whether Leach is being optimistic or outrageous. The Raiders return an explosive, proven performer in senior Danny Amendola, who has been compared favorably to former Tech star Wes Welker because of his size (5'11", 177) and special teams skills. But junior L.A. Reed (23 career catches), redshirt freshman Mike Crabtree, sophomore Edward Britton and junior Eric

A QUICK LOOK AT THE RED RAIDERS

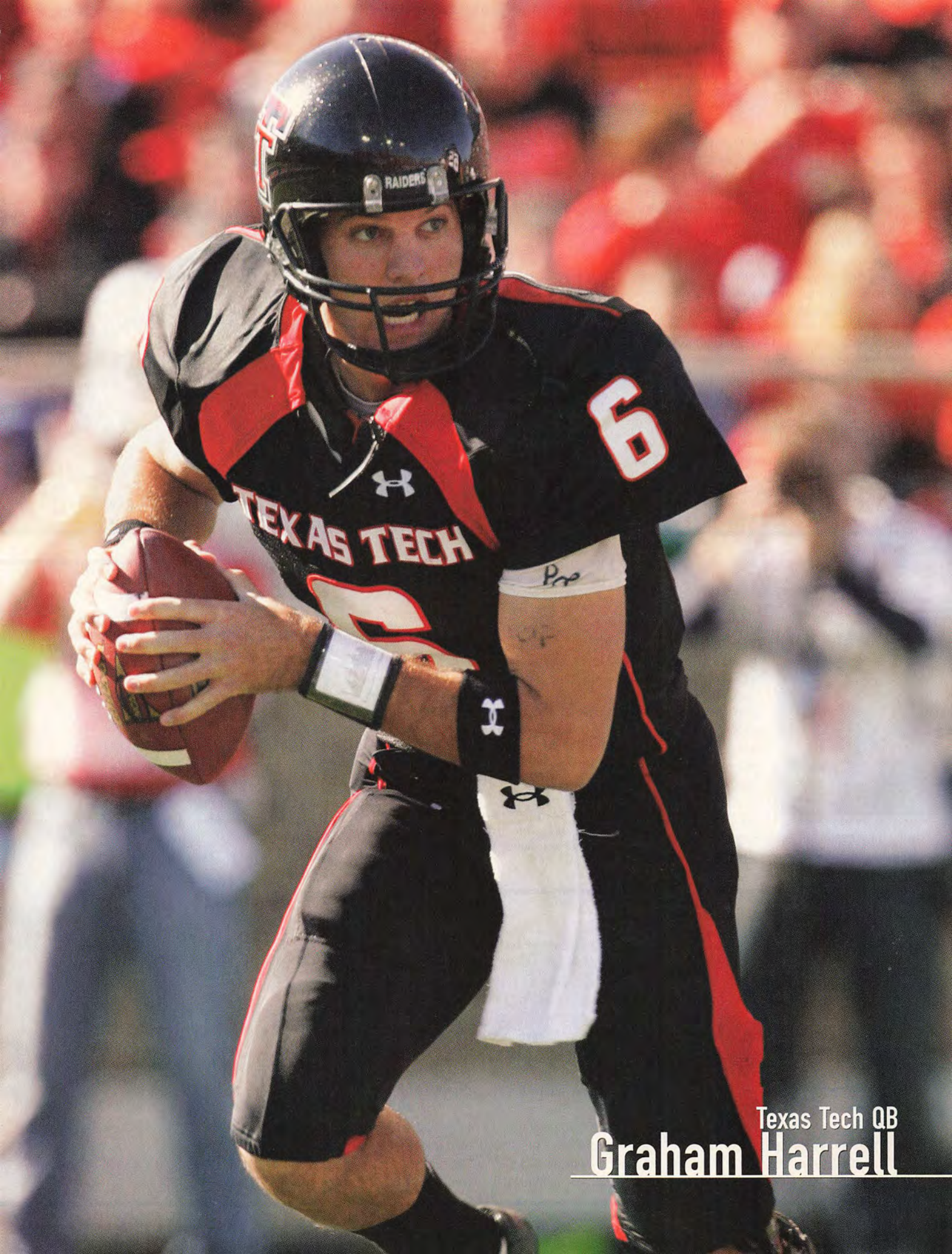
Even with four offensive linemen and its top two receivers gone from last year; even with **Mike Leach** demoting top running back **Shannon Woods** to third-team following spring practices; and even with Leach attempting to convince fans that **Graham Harrell** is not a certain starter at quarterback, Texas Tech is not likely to have many problems moving the football. That's what the Red Raiders do. And despite what Leach may lead you to believe at this time of the year, Harrell may be capable of being the best quarterback ever to orchestrate Tech's prolific passing attack. Expect Woods to work his way out of the doghouse, and expect the Raiders to once again be among the country's top passing teams. Tech should be pretty good defending the pass, as well. The problem is that with a very inexperienced and unproven front seven, Tech may not be able to stop many of its tougher opponents. Mid-October games against physical opponents like Texas A&M and Missouri and season-ending games against Texas and Oklahoma could prove to be the defense's undoing. Nevertheless, Tech should pile up enough points to win seven or eight games once again and become bowl-eligible for the 15th straight time.



2007 SCHEDULE

S. 3	at SMU	W
S. 8	UTEP	W
S. 15	at Rice	W
S. 22	at Oklahoma State	L
S. 29	Northwestern State	W
O. 6	Iowa State	W
O. 13	Texas A&M	L
O. 20	at Missouri	L
O. 27	Colorado	W
N. 3	at Baylor	W
N. 10	at Texas	L
N. 17	Oklahoma	L

* Games in **bold** represent games crucial to the season.
W or L indicates a projected win or loss



Texas Tech QB
Graham Harrell

Morris (35 career receptions) must step up in a big way to fill the large shoes of Filani and Johnson.

Offensive Linemen This is where things get a bit dicey on offense. Only one starter (left guard Louis Vasquez) returns from a unit that allowed only one sack every 37 pass attempts last year. Left tackle Marlon Winn, center Shawn Byrnes, right guard Stephen Hamby and right tackle Rylan Reed, a former minor league baseball player and converted tight end, emerged from the spring as starters. But considering this unit's lack of experience, opponents will likely test the offensive line with a variety of blitzes.

Defensive Linemen Like the offensive line, Tech's defensive front features plenty of questions. Sack specialist Keyunta Dawson is gone, and so are three proven tackles. Junior Jake Ratliff, senior Tyler Yenser and sophomore Brandon Williams are solid players on the ends, but none of them possesses Dawson's explosiveness. Sophomore nose tackle Rajon Henley performed well in the spring, but the tackle positions are a key concern.

RISING STAR

Defensive backs often left scrimmages frustrated when freshman **Mike**

Crabtree mimicked the opposition's top receiver. The tremendously athletic Crabtree is now leaving the scout team for the first-team offense, and Tech's opponents will likely have

their hands full defending him.



Linebackers After being granted a sixth year of eligibility by the NCAA, athletic strong-side linebacker Kellen Tillman is the only returning starter among the linebacker corps. Tillman was productive last season, producing 42 stops. Seniors Paul Williams and Chad Hill will likely fill the other two starting spots, with Ty Linder, Victor Hunter and Marlon Williams providing depth. But overall, this unit appears to lack star power and impact playmakers.

Defensive Backs While the front seven is filled with new starters and unproven players, Texas Tech's secondary returns three of four starters from a unit that helped the Raiders lead the Big 12 by allowing opponents only 182.4 passing yards per game. Garcia, a hard-hitting strong safety, anchors the veteran-laden secondary. Garcia finished with 87 tackles and two forced fumbles in '06. At free safety, McBath is also a proven playmaker, picking off three passes last year, including two in an overtime win over UTEP. McBath also broke up five passes. Chris Parker is also an outstanding cornerback, recording 50 tackles and six passes broken up. The lone new starter will be at left corner, where redshirt freshman LaRon Moore, junior college transfer De'Shon Sanders and sophomore Jamar Wall will attempt to fill the shoes of the departed Antonio Huffman. Wall may have the inside track after an impressive spring.

Specialists The Raiders feature a couple of All-Big 12 candidates in kicker Alex Trlica and Amendola as a punt returner. Trlica is remarkably consistent inside 40 yards (13-of-16 and 51-of-51 on PATs). He also displayed his ability to perform under pressure by drilling a 52-yard field goal to send the Insight Bowl into overtime. Amendola, meanwhile, is an explosive return specialist who has a career average of better than 10 yards per punt return. The main concern is at punter, where Alex Reyes left with the school's best career average (43.3). Tech is hoping that true freshman Jonathan LaCour can take over where Reyes left off.

SCOUTING THE RED RAIDERS

Opposing coaches size up Texas Tech: "You have to give an awful lot of credit to Mike Leach, even though it is hard for some traditionalists to do. He just keeps producing unbelievable offensive numbers no matter who he plugs in his system. ... I really think (quarterback) Graham Harrell has the potential to be something really special. He made some mistakes last year as a sophomore, but he was cool in the clutch. If you watched that bowl game, you had to be amazed at Tech's refusal to give up even when they were down by 31 — and you had to be wondering how they got blown out by Colorado. You can never feel like any lead is safe when you play them. ... On paper, their receivers don't scare you, but they are so good at what they do. And when you're scrambling to get everyone covered, they'll bust a big running play with Shannon Woods. ... Their offensive line is not what it has been, but Harrell will get rid of the ball quickly. You just have to try to hit him on as many plays as possible. Their secondary is pretty good, but it looks like that front seven could be pretty vulnerable. But no matter who they put on the field and no matter how big of lead you have, you can't ever feel comfortable playing them."



Danny Amendola

KEY RED RAIDERS

Graham Harrell, QB

Poised junior could elevate his game with a year's experience under his belt.

Joe Garcia, SS

Hard-hitting leader of an experienced defensive backfield.

Louis Vasquez, G

Lone returning starter on offensive line will need to be a big-time leader.

Alex Trlica, K

Practically automatic from inside 40 yards; can perform under pressure.

Shannon Woods, RB

Needs to get out of Mike Leach's doghouse to take the pigskin to the house.

KEY LOSSES

Joel Filani, WR

Led the Raiders last season with 1,300 receiving yards and 13 touchdowns.

Keyunta Dawson, DE

Rush specialist left school tied for fourth on the school's all-time sack list.

Brock Stratton, LB

Led team with 88 tackles in 2006.

Alex Reyes, P

Averaged 43.3 yards per punt in his collegiate career, best in school history.

Robert Johnson, WR

Former quarterback caught 89 passes for 871 yards and 11 TDs in '06.

PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE (4)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 86	L.A. Reed	Jr.
WR 5	Mike Crabtree	Fr.
IR 12	Eric Morris	Jr.
IR 20	Danny Amendola	Sr.
LT 67	Marlon Winn	So.
LG 65	Louis Vasquez	Jr.
C 64	Shawn Byrnes	So.
RG 71	Stephen Hamby	Jr.
RT 74	Rylan Reed	Jr.
QB 6	Graham Harrell	Jr.
RB 2	Shannon Woods	Jr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 27	Edward Britton	So.
WR	Lyle Leong	Fr.
IR 85	Kelly Hildebrandt	Sr.
IR 19	Grant Walker	Sr.
LT 77	Chris Olson	Fr.
LG 77	Chris Olson	Fr.
C	Justin Keown	Fr.
RG 60	Brandon Carter	So.
RT 61	Andrew Johnson	So.
QB 15	Taylor Potts	Fr.
RB 21	Kobey Lewis	So.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE (5)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 98	Jake Ratliff	Jr.
NT 91	Rajon Henley	So.
DT 97	Richard Jones	So.
DE 84	Brandon Williams	So.
SLB 56	Kellen Tillman	Sr.
MLB 48	Paul Williams	Sr.
WLB 54	Chad Hill	Sr.
CB 3	Jamar Wall	So.
CB 17	Chris Parker	Sr.
SS 49	Joe Garcia	Sr.
FS 7	Darcel McBath	Jr.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 89	Tyler Yenzer	Sr.
NT 90	Brian Jones	So.
DT 86	Clint Stoffels	Fr.
DE 89	Tyler Yenzer	Sr.
SLB 59	Ty Linder	Sr.
MLB 52	Victor Hunter	So.
WLB 39	Marlon Williams	So.
CB	De'Shon Sanders	Jr.
CB 1	Marcus Bunton	Jr.
SS 24	Lance Fuller	Jr.
FS 23	Anthony Hines	Jr.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos. No.	Name	Class
K 30	Alex Trlica	Sr.
P	Jonathan LaCour	Fr.
KR 86	L.A. Reed	Jr.
PR 20	Danny Amendola	Sr.

Returning Starters In Bold

2007 TEXAS TECH ROSTER

Quarterbacks		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	86	Stoffels, Clint	DT	5'11"	248	Fr.	Gainesville, TX
6	Harrell, Graham	QB	6'3"	197	Jr.	Ennis, TX		Thomison, Jess	DT	6'2"	255	Fr.	Hutto, TX
15	Potts, Taylor	QB	6'5"	210	Fr.	Abilene, TX	84	Williams, Brandon	DE	6'3"	243	So.	Fort Worth, TX
16	Rowland, Ryan	QB	6'3"	212	Sr.	Midland, TX	89	Yenzer, Tyler	DE	6'4"	244	Sr.	Midland, TX
18	Sheffield, Steven	QB	6'4"	185	Fr.	Pflugerville, TX	Linebackers		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
Running Backs		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	57	Duncan, Brian	LB	6'2"	228	Fr.	Baton Rouge, LA
25	Batch, Baron	RB	5'10"	190	So.	Midland, TX	50	Hale, Ryan	LB	6'0"	219	So.	Baytown, TX
23	Hayes, Ryan	RB	5'6"	161	So.	Lubbock, TX	54	Hill, Chad	WLB	6'1"	229	Sr.	Lubbock, TX
21	Lewis, Kobey	RB	5'5"	173	So.	Abilene, TX	47	Howard, Julius	LB	6'0"	223	Fr.	Irving, TX
2	Woods, Shannon	RB	5'11"	190	Jr.	McKinney, TX	52	Hunter, Victor	MLB	5'10"	260	So.	Irving, TX
Receivers		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	59	Linder, Ty	SLB	6'2"	215	Sr.	Austin, TX
20	Amendola, Danny	IR	5'11"	177	Sr.	The Woodlands, TX	46	Riley, Sandy	LB	6'1"	257	So.	Houston, TX
89	Brinker, Brik	WR	6'1"	173	Fr.	Wolfforth, TX	56	Tillman, Kellen	SLB	6'2"	240	Sr.	Plano, TX
27	Britton, Edward	WR	6'0"	177	So.	El Paso, TX	58	Wallace, Chris	LB	5'10"	220	So.	Grapevine, TX
5	Crabtree, Mike	WR	6'2"	208	Fr.	Dallas, TX	39	Williams, Marlon	WLB	5'11"	225	So.	Pflugerville, TX
84	Griffin, J.J.	WR	5'10"	206	Jr.	Odessa, TX	48	Williams, Paul	MLB	6'1"	221	Sr.	Tyler, TX
		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	Defensive Backs		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
85	Hildebrandt, Kelly	IR	5'8"	179	Sr.	Lubbock, TX		Aholo, Sam	DB	5'11"	208	So.	Keller, TX
32	Hoefer, Landon	WR	6'0"	197	So.	Abilene, TX	1	Bunton, Marcus	CB	5'8"	196	Jr.	Taylor, TX
	James, Adam	TE	6'3"	222	Fr.	Celina, TX	10	Charbonnet, Daniel	S	6'0"	195	Jr.	The Woodlands, TX
	Jones, Shane	WR	5'11"	194	Fr.	Kerrville, TX	35	Collier, Blake	S	6'2"	194	So.	Justin, TX
	Leong, Lyle	WR	6'0"	168	Fr.	Abilene, TX	34	Conwright, James	CB	5'10"	176	Sr.	Lubbock, TX
12	Morris, Eric	IR	5'8"	174	Jr.	Shallowater, TX	24	Fuller, Lance	SS	6'0"	218	Jr.	Smithson Valley, TX
86	Reed, L.A.	IR	6'2"	201	Jr.	Conroe, TX	49	Garcia, Joe	SS	6'1"	217	Sr.	Clovis, NM
80	Reese, Adrian	TE	6'6"	203	So.	Longview, TX	28	Harris, Steven	S	5'11"	184	Fr.	Lewisville, TX
29	Schaefer, David	IR	6'3"	227	Sr.	Cisco, TX	23	Hines, Anthony	FS	6'1"	236	Jr.	Denison, TX
10	Sterling, Christian	WR	6'1"	188	Fr.	Houston, TX	7	McBath, Darcel	FS	6'1"	196	Jr.	Gainesville, TX
19	Walker, Grant	IR	6'0"	189	Sr.	Pflugerville, TX	37	Mitchem, Franklin	S	6'2"	185	Fr.	Klein, TX
4	Walker, Todd	WR	6'1"	178	Jr.	Pflugerville, TX	12	Moore, LaRon	DB	5'9"	186	Fr.	Midwest City, OK
87	Williams, Daitric	WR	6'4"	215	Fr.	Missouri City, TX	33	Nickerson, Brent	CB	6'0"	174	So.	Irving, TX
Offensive Linemen		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	83	Nickerson, Trent	CB	6'3"	192	Fr.	Irving, TX
62	Archie, Adrian	OL	6'5"	313	Fr.	Huntsville, TX	17	Parker, Chris	CB	5'10"	178	Sr.	Dallas, TX
	Brumit, Buddy	OL	6'3"	304	Fr.	Garland, TX	18	Read, Taylor	S	6'1"	231	Sr.	O'Donnell, TX
	Burge, Landon	OL	6'2"	282	So.	Leander, TX	31	Richardson, Pete	CB	5'9"	185	So.	Muskogee, OK
64	Byrnes, Shawn	C	6'3"	317	So.	Phoenix, AZ	38	Rowland, Jordy	S	6'0"	190	Jr.	Nazareth, TX
60	Carter, Brandon	G	6'6"	356	So.	Longview, TX		Sanders, De'Shon	CB	6'1"	191	Jr.	San Francisco, CA
71	Hamby, Stephen	G	6'3"	280	Jr.	San Antonio, TX	40	Stone, Nathan	DB	5'8"	170	Fr.	Lubbock, TX
61	Johnson, Andrew	T	6'4"	304	So.	Houston, TX	26	Vation, LaShawn	S	5'9"	170	So.	Irving, TX
	Keown, Justin	C	6'4"	280	Fr.	Anderson, SC	3	Wall, Jamar	CB	5'10"	194	So.	Plainview, TX
75	Mohetau, Ofa	OL	6'3"	362	Sr.	Euless, TX	16	White, Loy	S	5'8"	192	Sr.	Georgetown, TX
		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	Specialists		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
77	Olson, Chris	G/T	6'5"	298	Fr.	Dallas, TX	82	Berg, Grant	P	6'5"	198	Jr.	Houston, TX
74	Reed, Rylan	T	6'6"	285	Jr.	Dallas, TX	61	Bettenhausen, Michael	LS	6'2"	270	Sr.	Plano, TX
79	Taylor, Gary	OL	6'5"	245	So.	Wolfforth, TX	50	Burns, Austin	LS	5'10"	244	So.	Midland, TX
65	Vasquez, Louis	G	6'6"	341	Jr.	Corsicana, TX	37	Fowler, Cory	K	5'8"	160	Jr.	The Woodlands, TX
67	Winn, Marlon	T	6'5"	324	So.	Waxahachie, TX	30	Trlica, Alex	K	5'11"	176	Sr.	Friendswood, TX
Defensive Linemen		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	87	Warner, Gerrid	LS	6'7"	216	Sr.	Oak Harbor, WA
68	Barbee, Britton	DT	6'2"	270	Fr.	Abilene, TX							
85	Estelle, Sean	DE	6'2"	240	Fr.	Missouri City, TX							
91	Henley, Rajon	NT	6'3"	258	So.	Galveston, TX							
90	Jones, Brian	NT	6'2"	292	So.	Everman, TX							
94	Jones, Phillip	DE	6'4"	242	So.	Lewisville, TX							
97	Jones, Richard	DT	6'2"	285	So.	LaMarque, TX							
98	Ratliff, Jake	DE	6'8"	250	Jr.	Lawton, OK							

Head Coach: Mike Leach • Record at School: 56-33 (7 years) • Career Record: 56-33 (7 years)

Offensive Coordinator: Dana Holgorsen • Defensive Coordinator: Lyle Setencich • Lubbock, Texas • Jones AT&T Stadium (52,882)

2006 INDIVIDUAL STATS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.
Graham Harrell	617	412	4,555	38	11
Chris Todd	35	25	241	1	0

Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Shannon Woods	152	926	6.1	10
Baron Batch	9	43	4.8	1

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Joel Filani	91	1,300	14.3	13
Robert Johnson	89	871	9.8	11
Shannon Woods	75	572	7.6	2
Danny Amendola	48	487	10.1	5

Kicking: Alex Trlica, 15-21 FGs, 51-51 XPs, 96 points

Tackles: Brock Stratton, 88; Joe Garcia, 87

Sacks: Keyunta Dawson, 6

Interceptions: Darcel McBath, 3

Returning Players in Bold



OUTSIDE THE HUDDLE

Lagging on the line Texas Tech allowed the fewest sacks in 2006 (18) in Mike Leach's seven-year tenure. But the loss of four starters along the offensive line leaves the Raiders very inexperienced. And an even bigger problem may be a lack of quality depth. For one reason or another, 11 of the 21 offensive linemen the Raiders signed between 2003 and 2006 are no longer on the roster.

Open tryouts Tech is hoping that punter Jonathan LaCour from Kingwood (Texas) High proves to be the real deal this fall. If he isn't, Leach may be scouring the academic buildings on campus. In the spring, Leach solicited Tech students with high school punting experience to practice with the team because no veterans were available.

Comeback kids Leach says he hopes there are two carryover effects from the historic win over Minnesota in the Insight Bowl, when the Raiders rallied from a 31-point deficit. "First of all, I hope our guys truly believe they are never out of the game," Leach says. "Secondly, I hope they realize it's not worth falling that far behind to try to break our own record."

Moving up the charts Last year's backup quarterback, Chris Todd, transferred to a junior college at mid-term, while Arizona State transfer Derek Shaw left the Tech program because of family issues. That leaves the door wide open for redshirt freshman Taylor Potts to prove he is capable of being Harrell's backup. The 6'5" Potts was extremely impressive in the spring, performing very well in scrimmages.

Guilty There was one statistical category the Red Raiders would like to reverse in 2007. Tech was the most penalized team in the Big 12 last season. The Raiders were penalized 96 times for 856 yards, an average of 65.8 yards per game.

2006 RESULTS

Record: 8-5 (4-4 Big 12)

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Att.
S. 2	SMU	W	35-3	50,362
S. 9	at UTEP	(ot) W	38-35	51,827
S. 16	at TCU	L	3-12	45,647
S. 23	SE Louisiana	W	62-0	52,913
S. 30	at Texas A&M	W	31-27	85,979
O. 7	Missouri	L	21-38	49,050
O. 14	at Colorado	L	6-30	50,233
O. 21	at Iowa State	W	42-26	44,112
O. 28	Texas	L	31-35	56,158
N. 4	Baylor	W	55-21	51,303
N. 11	at Oklahoma	L	24-34	85,313
N. 18	Oklahoma State	W	30-24	45,457
D. 29	#Minnesota	(ot) W	44-41	48,391
	#Insight Bowl			

Joe Garcia

2007 RECRUITING

Texas Tech's 2007 signing class did not impress the recruiting experts. But in terms of addressing specific needs along the offensive and defensive lines and in the receiving corps, the Raiders most certainly added quantity. "We wanted to get offensive linemen, defensive linemen and receivers," Mike Leach says. "I think this is the best offensive line class we've ever had here. Contrary to what (the recruiting services think), we like this class."

The headliner may have been late addition Jacob Amie of Tyler (Texas) Lee. Amie, the highest-rated member of an impressive receiving class, is an extremely big and athletic target.

The most pressing offensive concern, however, was up front, where Tech added at least one prospect who could figure into the immediate plans. Lonnie Edwards was the highest-rated lineman of the class, and his strength makes him at least a candidate to fill one of the holes in the current offensive front.

Defensively, Tech signed a solid class of linemen, including Tyrone Sonier, who could play either defensive end or strong-side linebacker.

Bobbie Agoucha	DT	6'4"	315	Oklahoma City, OK
Recorded 18 tackles and three sacks in only four games as a senior.				
Jacob Amie	WR	6'4"	228	Tyler, TX
Ranked No. 23 tight end in country by Scout.com, No. 46 wide receiver in country and No. 49 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com, and No. 1 athlete in Texas by DFWVarsity.com.				
Bront Bird	S	6'4"	201	Odessa, TX
Ranked No. 48 outside linebacker in the nation by ESPN.com.				
Omar Castillo	T	6'6"	285	Roswell, NM
Ranked No. 8 prospect in New Mexico by Rivals.com. Nickname is "Chief."				
Taylor Charbonnet	ATH	5'9"	164	The Woodlands, TX
Named first-team All-Greater Houston Area by the <i>Houston Chronicle</i> .				
Aaron Crawford	RB	5'11"	200	Memphis, TN
Named Class 5A Mr. Football and first-team Class 5A All-State by TSWA. Rushed for 1,641 yards and 17 TDs as a senior; 2,242 yards and 23 TDs as a junior.				
Dominique Delpeche	G	6'7"	338	Fort Worth, TX
Basketball player who participated in football for the first time as a HS senior.				
Lonnie Edwards	G	6'5"	315	Brownsboro, TX
Named District 14-Class 3A Offensive Lineman of the Year by TexasPrepXtra.com.				
Blake Emert	T	6'5"	275	Garland, TX
Ranked No. 2 offensive lineman in Texas by the <i>Dallas Morning News</i> .				
Jared Flannel	RB	6'0"	180	Brazoria, TX
Named District 24-Class 3A MVP following sophomore and junior seasons.				
Jacoby Franks	WR	6'2"	180	Orange, TX
Father Kerry played at Oklahoma State and brother Kerry Jr. plays at Texas A&M.				

RECRUITING BREAKDOWN

By Position

Offensive Linemen.....	7
Wide Receivers	6
Defensive Ends	5
Defensive Backs	2
Defensive Tackles	2
Running Backs	2
Athletes	1
Punters/Kickers	1
Quarterbacks.....	1
Tight Ends	1

By State

Texas	17
Oklahoma.....	3
New Mexico	2
Arkansas	1
Georgia	1
Hawaii	1
Kansas	1
South Carolina.....	1
Tennessee	1

Jerrold Gooch	T	6'5"	290	Vidor, TX
Ranked No. 35 offensive tackle in the country by Scout.com.				
Rashad Hawk	WR	6'3"	180	Copperas Cove, TX
Ranked No. 88 prospect in Texas by the <i>San Antonio Express-News</i> .				
Daniel Howard	DE	6'3"	240	Wichita, KS
Transfer from Butler County (Kan.) CC. Had 12 sacks and three forced fumbles in '06.				
Adam James	TE	6'3"	200	Celina, TX
Father, Craig, played football at SMU before becoming analyst for ESPN and ABC.				
Justin Keown	C	6'4"	285	Anderson, SC
Attended Hargrave Military Academy. Enrolled at Texas Tech in January '07.				
Jonathan LaCour	P/K	6'2"	190	Kingwood, TX
Second kicker to receive scholarship offer since coach Mike Leach arrived in '00.				

SPOTLIGHT ON...SAM FEHOKO

Defensive End • 6'2" • 230 • Honolulu, HI

Typically, when Texas Tech coaches focus their attention on recruiting "the island," it involves Galveston, along the Texas Gulf Coast. But in an ultimate example of expanding their vision, Tech coaches landed a top defensive prospect in February from the Hawaiian Islands. Sam Fehoko will be exchanging beach sand for the sandstorms on the South Plains.

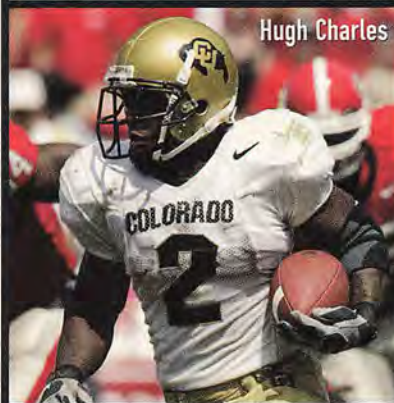
Fehoko played organized football for only two years, but the numbers he compiled in Hawaii were too impressive for Tech not to take a chance on the powerful prospect. Fehoko was credited with 77 tackles and 12 sacks as a junior — his first season to play football. Last year, his sacks total increased to 22.5.

He originally committed to San Diego State, where his brother, Whitley, is a sophomore offensive lineman. But when word spread about his productivity, Fehoko says he received scholarship offers from 14 other schools, including Auburn, Oklahoma and Tech. Fehoko says he was particularly impressed by the people of Lubbock when he visited the Tech campus.

Lyle Leong	WR	6'2"	170	Abilene, TX
Named first-team Class 5A All-State by TSWA as a senior in '05. Had 57 catches for 1,250 yards and 12 TDs in '05; 34 catches for 600 yards and 11 TDs in '04.				
Detron Lewis	WR	6'0"	190	College Station, TX
Recorded 62 catches for 973 yards and 10 TDs as a junior in '05.				
Stefan Loucks	QB	6'2"	185	Little Rock, AR
Ranked No. 2 quarterback and No. 13 overall prospect in Arkansas by <i>SuperPrep</i> . Threw for 13,701 yards and 147 TDs during HS career, including 60 TDs as a senior.				
David Neill	DE	6'5"	260	Flower Mound, TX
Ranked No. 79 defensive end in the nation by Scout.com.				
Mickey Okafor	T	6'6"	305	Houston, TX
Ranked No. 5 offensive lineman in Houston by the <i>Houston Chronicle</i> .				
De'Shon Sanders	CB	6'2"	205	Hobbs, NM
Transfer from City College of San Francisco. Had 28 tackles and two INTs in '06. Ranked No. 7 JUCO cornerback by <i>SuperPrep</i> .				
Brandon Sharpe	DE	6'4"	240	Lyons, GA
Transfer from Fresno City (Calif.) CC. Had nine sacks and one INT in '06.				
Tyrone Sonier	DE	6'3"	225	Missouri City, TX
Named second-team Class 5A All-State by TSWA. Had 92 tackles and 10.5 sacks in '06.				
Tramain Swindall	WR	6'3"	180	Oklahoma City, OK
Ranked No. 5 prospect in Oklahoma by Rivals.com. Had 1,000 yards and 11 TDs on offense; 164 tackles and eight INTs on defense as a senior.				
Colby Whitlock	DT	6'3"	290	Noble, OK
Ranked No. 17 prospect in Oklahoma by Rivals.com.				

A QUICK LOOK AT THE BUFFALOES

Expect a more sound Colorado team in its second season under **Don Hawkins**. The Buffaloes know the schemes, and the lack of familiarity with what coaches wanted last year should not be a problem again. Depth, however, is. At nearly every position, reserves who have yet to play much will be expected to contribute. Only seven offensive linemen were available in spring, and eight incoming freshmen linemen will compete for time. Colorado's fortunes partially hinge on how well they're physically and mentally prepared for what awaits. Don't be surprised if 6'8", 310-pound tackle **Ryan Miller** starts by midseason. CU also needs playmakers. Coaches hope one or two emerge at receiver. If dropped passes abound again, expect to see touted freshman **Markques Simas** in the mix. Senior running back **Hugh Charles** is a threat every time he has the ball, but his ability to carry it 20 times a game has yet to be seen. Behind him are question marks, so a big year from Charles will be helpful. Too many times in 2006 the defense wore down while the offense scuffled. That problem might return this fall. CU has solid tackles and linebackers who'll be asked to lead the defense, which it needs to keep games close while its offense develops.



Hugh Charles

2007 SCHEDULE

S. 1	Colorado State	*
S. 8	at Arizona State	L
S. 15	Florida State	L
S. 22	Miami (OH)	W
S. 29	Oklahoma	W
O. 6	at Baylor	L
O. 13	at Kansas State	L
O. 20	Kansas	*
O. 27	at Texas Tech	L
N. 3	Missouri	L
N. 10	at Iowa State	*
N. 23	Nebraska	L
#Denver, CO		

*Games in bold represent games crucial to the season.
W or L indicates a projected win or loss

Charles: Greg Abramowitz; O'Brien: Larry Smith

In its first season in Colorado, "Hawk Love" left lots to be desired. CU's worst year since 1984 included countless embarrassments — most notably a season-opening loss to Division I-AA Montana State — on its way to a 2–10 record. The transition to Dan Hawkins and his staff perplexed many, including the new head coach, whose challenges at CU proved complicated.

There were occasions last year where half the defensive secondary played man-to-man, while the other half was in Cover 2. Offensive signals from the bench to the field were frequently misunderstood. In the days following the Montana State loss, Hawkins couldn't even access some of his computer files due to technical glitches. There were challenges everywhere he turned last year.

Through it all, though, he remained positive. Spring's theme was improvement. And as he enters his second season in Boulder, Hawkins hopes 2006's painful lessons sunk in. "I hope it's not a distant memory, I really don't, because we need to continue to look at all of those little things and how they impact ball games and how getting those things sorted out — whether it's in the weight room or film room or (at practice) — is really, really important," he says.

"It's not that you hang around in the gloom of it. You need to let the fire fuel you a little bit. I hope they just don't forget it because there are important lessons to be learned from that kind of stuff."

The Buffaloes need confidence. There will be immense challenges in 2007, including a home schedule featuring visits from Florida State, Oklahoma, Missouri and Nebraska. But believing they can compete a year after losing 10 games looms large.

"We need to learn that we're not as bad as everybody thinks we are," senior cornerback Terrence Wheatley says. "Everybody is like, 'Well you guys just suck.' The reality is there were really no games (in 2006) where we got outplayed, outworked, out-everythinged. A lot of the stuff was on us."

Quarterbacks The job remains open as August camp starts. But based on what happened in spring, Cody Hawkins is the favorite. After redshirting in 2006, Hawkins, the coach's son, knew the offense better than the other quarterbacks. That's his biggest advantage. The 5'11" Hawkins has ample talent, despite his size. He throws a nice ball, and he was the No. 4-rated quarterback following the EA Sports Elite 11 Quarterback Camp in the summer of 2005. Nick Nelson is also in the mix. He enrolled at CU in January out of Saddleback College in California. He's a hard worker who busted his tail to close the gap with Hawkins in spring. Coaches promise he'll receive a fair

chance in camp. Senior Bernard Jackson made 11 starts in 2006 and at times was dynamic. But behind Jackson, the offense was limited. As spring passed, Jackson took fewer reps under center and more at wide receiver. Expect him to man a "slash" role in 2007 as coaches seek ways to his use skills.

NUMBERS GAME

Colorado ranked 12th in the Big 12 in most offensive statistics — including scoring (16.3 ppg), passing yards (118.5 ypg), total yards (291.4 ypg), pass efficiency (96.7), first downs (182), third down conversions (33.3 percent) and fourth down conversions (15.4 percent).

Running Backs Senior Hugh Charles enters 2007 as CU's best playmaker. He averaged 5.6 yards per carry last fall and recorded 25 runs of 10 yards or longer. But Charles has yet to be an every-down back — he averaged fewer than 12 carries a game in 2006 — making depth at the position crucial. That's where things become interesting. Senior Byron Ellis, sophomore Kevin Moyd and redshirt freshman Demetrius Sumler will get chances. Moyd and Sumler have no collegiate carries, and Ellis owns a career average of 3.1 yards per carry. CU awaits the arrival of P.T. Gates. Ranked one of the nation's best junior college backs, Gates signed in February but had a lot of class work remaining at Saddleback College before he could transfer. If Gates makes it, and if he's as good as advertised, the starting job could be his.

Receivers The good news is everyone is back. The bad news is everyone is back. Injuries, dropped passes and inconsistent quarterback play limited this group's production. Tight end Riar Geer led CU with 24 receptions, followed by 21 from receiver Alvin Barnett. Colorado's lack of playmakers falls mostly on its receivers. Opponents will continue to stack the line against the run until CU finds more production through the air. An upgrade at quarterback will help, along with more experience. Barnett, fellow senior Dusty Sprague and junior Patrick Williams have experience. Seeking more playmaking abilities, coaches moved Cha'pelle Brown from cornerback to receiver. Incoming freshmen Markques Simas, Josh Smith and Kendrick Celestine are waiting if others falter. Hawkins' offenses demand good tight ends, and CU has a few. Geer and seniors Tyson DeVree and Joe Sanders, who switched from linebacker, are solid.



Colorado LB
Jordan Dizon

Offensive Linemen Jeff Grimes comes from BYU to replace Chris Strausser as offensive line coach. Grimes is CU's third line coach in three years, and he had only seven offensive linemen to work with in spring. One, guard Erick Faatagi, was limited as he recovers from ACL surgery. But Grimes enjoyed ample time for one-on-one teaching, and he stressed his philosophy — be mean and tough. Players say that mindset wasn't emphasized as much by Grimes' predecessors. Junior center Daniel Sanders and senior tackle Tyler Polumbus are CU's best and most experienced. Depth is a major question, and some of the eight incoming freshmen linemen must provide it. Ryan Miller is the most touted. At 6'8" and about 310 pounds, he has the size to play right away.

Defensive Linemen Losing ends Abraham Wright and Walter Boye-Doe to graduation hurts, but with tackles Brandon Nicolas and George Hypolite back after strong seasons, there is optimism. They rely on strength and quickness to compensate for their size (neither tops 300 pounds). They turned a position of uncertainty into a solid one in 2006, and improvement is expected. CU hopes junior

Maurice Lucas breaks out in 2007. Hawkins says Lucas is a "good player who can be great." Lucas needs experience and better health to do so. Coaches say he thought too much last year and didn't play fast enough. Lucas says he knows the defense well now, which will help.

Linebackers Under position coach Brian Cabral, linebacking at CU has become a tradition, and Cabral has another one who can be great. Senior Jordon Dizon is tough, smart and a sure tackler. But his instincts at the position are what set him apart. The captain is the heart of CU's defense. Coaches also hope junior outside backer Brad Jones takes the step from good to great. Sophomore Michael Sipili will replace Thaddaeus Washington. Sipili is a rugged player who loves to hit, and, like Dizon, figures to play a key role in a defense that wants to stuff the run first and ask questions later.

Defensive Backs Wheatley had his fourth wrist surgery last November. Despite playing with a cracked titanium plate in his right wrist for much of 2006, he still grabbed five interceptions. There's nothing wrong with his legs, and as long as they remain fine, he'll be one of the league's best. Safety Ryan Walters also played hurt last year, but fared well. Beyond Wheatley and Walters, depth and experience runs thin. Ben Burney will likely start at the other corner, and senior safety Lionel Harris is a big hitter. Colorado needs help in the secondary. The pass defense suffered from CU's stop-the-run mentality, and allowed a completion percentage of 66.9 in 2006. That is a shocking figure that must improve.

Specialists Kevin Eberhart waited four years to play while Mason Crosby excelled. He should be fine; just don't expect CU to try so many kicks from beyond 50 yards. That might be a good thing, though. Crosby went 2-for-9 from beyond 50 in 2006, and the misses gave opponents momentum. Sophomore punter Matt DiLallo was a bit jittery in 2006 but still averaged 43.7 yards per try. He has a strong leg and will benefit from calmer nerves. Better health will improve the return game.



KEY BUFFS

Jordon Dizon, LB

The captain of the Buffs' defense is tough and solid.

Terrence Wheatley, CB

If his wrist cooperates, he could be one of the Big 12's best.

Brandon Nicolas, DT

His strength helps solidify CU's stingy run defense.

Tyler Polumbus, T

Provides size, strength and experience from his left tackle spot.

Hugh Charles, RB

Explosive back is team's best playmaker.

KEY LOSSES

Abraham Wright, DE

Buff's best pass rusher led team with 11.5 sacks.

Mason Crosby, K

Reliable from within 50 yards; strong leg presented opportunities.

Thaddaeus Washington, LB

His grit and heart will be missed.

J.J. Billingsley, S

Solid tackler anchored secondary

Brian Daniels, G

Smart linemen was a leader.

RISING STAR

Redshirt freshman quarterback **Cody Hawkins**, son of the head coach, maximized his bench time in 2006 by learning the offense. Assuming he wins the job, Hawkins will take some lumps behind a thin offensive line. But he's smart, talented and a natural leader.



SCOUTING THE BUFFALOES

Opposing coaches size up Colorado: "Dan Hawkins' first year in Boulder started bad and just kept getting worse. How can a team like Colorado go 2-10? ... They should be better this year, but then again, it's hard to imagine how it could be much worse. ... (Dan) Hawkins recruited well, and I think some of those newcomers will have to make an immediate impact. The big question is: How much better play can they get from their quarterbacks, regardless of whether it is the transfer (Nick Nelson) or the coach's son (Cody Hawkins)? ... They'll be much improved. From a scheme standpoint they do a lot of things that are really tough to stop. You really have to be right on your toes to try to match up the calls to what they're doing. It's almost like playing a different offense every week. You didn't know how to prepare for them because you didn't know what you were going to see. Different plays, different formations, different personnel groups. It was very unusual. ... They'll get better in a hurry. Hawkins will do a great job. He's energetic and enthusiastic."

PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE (7)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 4	Patrick Williams	Jr.
WR 17	Alvin Barnett	Sr.
LT 77	Tyler Polumbus	Sr.
LG 65	Wes Palazzi	Fr.
C 75	Daniel Sanders	Jr.
RG 72	Devin Head	So.
RT 76	Edwin Harrison	Sr.
TE 87	Riar Geer	So.
QB 7	Cody Hawkins	Fr.
FB 32	Maurice Cantrell	Jr.
RB 2	Hugh Charles	Sr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 10	Bernard Jackson	Sr.
WR 83	Dusty Sprague	Sr.
LT	Ryan Miller	Fr.
LG 61	Erick Faatagi	Jr.
C 56	Keenan Stevens	Fr.
RG	Blake Behrens	Fr.
RT	Sione Tau	Fr.
TE 84	Tyson DeVree	Sr.
QB 3	Nick Nelson	Jr.
FB 43	Samson Jagoras	Sr.
RB 27	Byron Ellis	Sr.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE (7)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 91	Maurice Lucas	Jr.
NT 86	George Hypolite	Jr.
DT 94	Brandon Nicolas	Jr.
DE 47	Alonzo Barrett	Sr.
OLB 10	Michael Sipili	So.
ILB 44	Jordon Dizon	Sr.
OLB 40	Brad Jones	Jr.
CB 26	Terrence Wheatley	Sr.
CB 42	Benjamin Burney	Jr.
SS 25	Lionel Harris	Sr.
FS 15	Ryan Walters	Jr.

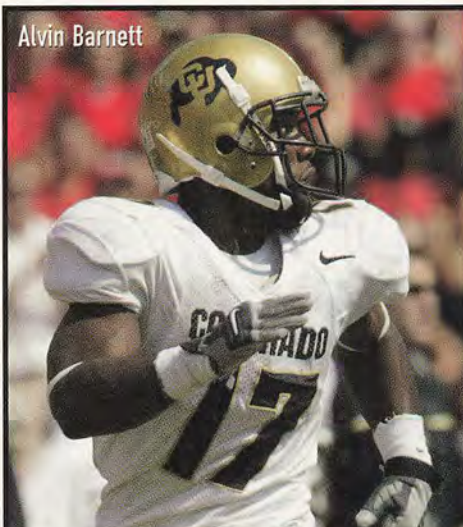
SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 49	Drew Hudgins	Jr.
NT 97	Taj Kaynor	So.
DT 78	Jason Brace	So.
DE 90	Marquez Herrod	Fr.
OLB 34	R.J. Brown	Jr.
ILB 54	Marcus Burton	Jr.
OLB 59	B.J. Beatty	Fr.
CB 23	Jalil Brown	Fr.
CB 6	Gardner McKay	Jr.
SS 9	Daniel Dykes	Jr.
FS 30	Joel Adams	Jr.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos. No.	Name	Class
K 39	Kevin Eberhart	Sr.
P 14	Matthew DiLallo	So.
KR 2	Hugh Charles	Sr.
PR 1	Stephone Robinson	Sr.

2007 COLORADO ROSTER

Quarterbacks						Linebackers												
		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown			POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown					
7	Hawkins, Cody	QB	5'11"	190	Fr.	Boise, ID	59	Beatty, B.J.	OLB	6'1"	230	Fr.	Kaaawa, HI					
10	Jackson, Bernard	QB/WR	6'0"	200	Sr.	Corona, CA	34	Brown, R.J.	OLB	6'1"	225	Jr.	Honolulu, HI					
3	Nelson, Nick	QB	6'1"	220	Jr.	Mission Viejo, CA	54	Burton, Marcus	ILB	6'0"	245	Jr.	Channelview, TX					
						44	Dizon, Jordon	ILB	6'0"	225	Sr.	Kauai, HI						
Running Backs																		
		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	57	Duren, Jake	LB	6'0"	230	So.	Littleton, CO					
41	Behrens, Jake	FB	6'0"	230	So.	Omaha, NE	55	Hartigan, Josh	OLB	6'1"	210	Fr.	Fort Lauderdale, FL					
32	Cantrell, Maurice	FB	6'0"	240	Jr.	Cedar Rapids, IA	40	Jones, Brad	OLB	6'3"	225	Jr.	East Lansing, MI					
2	Charles, Hugh	TB	5'8"	190	Sr.	Keller, TX	10	Sipili, Michael	OLB	6'1"	250	So.	Honolulu, HI					
27	Ellis, Byron	TB	6'0"	215	Sr.	Culver City, CA	45	Smart, Jeff	ILB	5'11"	210	So.	Boulder, CO					
43	Jagoras, Samson	FB	5'10"	225	Sr.	Arcadia, CA	52	Stengel, Bryan	OLB	6'2"	210	So.	Durango, CO					
23	Moyd, Kevin	TB	5'7"	195	So.	Miramar, FL							Defensive Backs					
36	Nabors, Cory	TB	5'9"	185	Fr.	Aurora, CO												
8	Sumler, Demetrius	TB	5'10"	210	Fr.	San Diego, CA	30	Adams, Joel	S	5'11"	195	Jr.	Steamboat Sprs., CO					
Receivers																		
		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	41	Black, Kyle	S	5'11"	195	Fr.	Highlands Ranch, CO					
17	Barnett, Alvin	WR	5'11"	190	Sr.	Tulsa, OK	23	Brown, Jalil	CB	6'1"	205	Fr.	Phoenix, AZ					
29	Brown, Cha'pelle	WR	5'7"	175	So.	La Puente, CA	42	Burney, Benjamin	CB	5'11"	195	Jr.	Lone Tree, CO					
48	Crawford, Cody	WR	5'11"	175	Jr.	San Diego, CA	9	Dykes, Daniel	S	6'2"	205	Jr.	Los Alamitos, CA					
33	Devenny, Patrick	TE	6'3"	240	So.	Roseville, CA	36	Foster, Reggie	S	5'10"	200	So.	Long Beach, CA					
84	DeVree, Tyson	TE	6'5"	245	Sr.	Hudsonville, MI	25	Harris, Lionel	S	6'0"	195	Sr.	Manvel, TX					
87	Geer, Riar	TE	6'3"	245	So.	Grand Junction, CO	18	Hawkins, Jonathan	CB	5'11"	185	Fr.	Perris, CA					
86	Ham, Cameron	WR	6'1"	195	Fr.	Haxtun, CO	6	McKay, Gardner	CB	5'11"	160	Jr.	Inglewood, CA					
82	Kachmer, Michael	WR	6'0"	185	So.	Wheaton, IL	28	Smith, Bret	S	5'11"	190	Fr.	Highlands Ranch, CO					
38	McBride, Chase	WR	5'7"	160	Sr.	Thornton, CO	3	Smith, Jimmy	CB	6'2"	200	Fr.	Colton, CA					
21	McKnight, Scotty	WR	5'10"	185	Fr.	Coto de Caza, CA	15	Walters, Ryan	S	5'11"	200	Jr.	Aurora, CO					
1	Robinson, Stephone	WR	5'8"	190	Sr.	Denver, CO	26	Wheatley, Terrence	CB	5'10"	170	Sr.	Richardson, TX					
13	Sanders, Joe	TE	6'3"	235	Sr.	Nashville, TN	20	Wilson, Terry	S	5'10"	205	Jr.	Chino, CA					
88	Shanahan, Devin	TE	6'5"	230	So.	Highlands Ranch, CO							Specialists					
92	Solder, Nate	TE	6'8"	270	Fr.	Buena Vista, CO												
83	Sprague, Dusty	WR	6'4"	190	Sr.	Holyoke, CO	50	Bisnow, Austin	LS	6'0"	210	Fr.	Washington, DC					
4	Williams, Patrick	WR	6'2"	200	Jr.	DeSoto, TX	14	DiLallo, Matthew	P	6'1"	205	So.	Wellington, FL					
80	Yates, Jarrell	WR	5'11"	200	So.	Denver, CO	70	Drescher, Justin	LS	6'1"	230	So.	Southlake, TX					
Offensive Linemen																		
		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	39	Eberhart, Kevin	K	5'11"	195	Sr.	Broomfield, CO					
61	Faatagi, Erick	G	6'2"	310	Jr.	Carson, CA	89	Parra, Jim	K	5'6"	140	Fr.	Greenwood Vill., CO					
76	Harrison, Edwin	T	6'4"	300	Sr.	Houston, TX	95	Suazo, Tom	P	5'11"	190	Jr.	Glenwood Sprs., CO					
72	Head, Devin	G	6'4"	285	So.	Corona, CA												
65	Palazzi, Wes	G	6'1"	285	Fr.	Plano, TX												
77	Polumbus, Tyler	T	6'8"	300	Sr.	Englewood, CO												
75	Sanders, Daniel	C	6'3"	305	Jr.	Vista, CA												
56	Stevens, Keenan	C	6'3"	275	Fr.	Monument, CO							Defensive Linemen					
		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown												
47	Barrett, Alonzo	DE	6'3"	235	Sr.	Alabaster, AL	47	Barrett, Alonzo	DE	6'3"	235	Sr.	Alabaster, AL					
78	Brace, Jason	NT	6'4"	265	So.	Spanaway, WA	78	Brace, Jason	NT	6'4"	265	So.	Spanaway, WA					
90	Herrod, Marquez	DE	6'2"	255	Fr.	Escondido, CA	90	Herrod, Marquez	DE	6'2"	255	Fr.	Escondido, CA					
49	Hudgins, Drew	DE	6'4"	235	Jr.	Spring Hills, KS	49	Hudgins, Drew	DE	6'4"	235	Jr.	Spring Hills, KS					
86	Hypolite, George	NT	6'1"	285	Jr.	Los Angeles, CA	86	Hypolite, George	NT	6'1"	285	Jr.	Los Angeles, CA					
97	Kaynor, Taj	DT	6'4"	265	So.	Englewood, CO	97	Kaynor, Taj	DT	6'4"	265	So.	Englewood, CO					
69	Lawson, Eric	DT	6'3"	260	Fr.	Sedalia, CO	69	Lawson, Eric	DT	6'3"	260	Fr.	Sedalia, CO					
91	Lucas, Maurice	DE	6'4"	255	Jr.	Denver, CO	91	Lucas, Maurice	DE	6'4"	255	Jr.	Denver, CO					
94	Nicolas, Brandon	DT	6'3"	280	Jr.	Santa Ana, CA	94	Nicolas, Brandon	DT	6'3"	280	Jr.	Santa Ana, CA					

Head Coach: Dan Hawkins • Record at School: 2-10 (1 year) • Career Record: 94-33-1 (11 years)
Offensive Coordinator: Mark Helfrich • Defensive Coordinator: Ron Collins • Boulder, Colo. • Folsom Field (53,750)

2006 INDIVIDUAL STATS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.
Bernard Jackson	219	108	1,298	7	7
James Cox	30	11	124	0	0

Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Hugh Charles	139	779	5.6	1
Bernard Jackson	155	677	4.4	7
Mell Holliday	105	512	4.9	1

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Riar Geer	24	261	10.9	3
Alvin Barnett	21	232	11.0	1
Patrick Williams	19	242	12.7	1

Kicking: Mason Crosby, 19-28 FGs, 19-19 XPs, 76 points

Tackles: **Jordon Dizon, 137**; Thaddaeus Washington, 107

Sacks: Abraham Wright, 11.5

Interceptions: Terrence Wheatley, 5

Returning Players in Bold



OUTSIDE THE HUDDLE

Another Slash After starting 11 times at quarterback in 2006, the athletic Bernard Jackson will man a "slash" role this year, playing receiver, kick returner and, yes, a little quarterback — but not much. Coaches say they'll use his varied skills in creative ways. Jackson accepts the move but doesn't sound thrilled by it. "There's no sense in fighting for some place they don't want me at," says Jackson, whom teammates voted a 2007 captain. "So I'm just going along with the punches."

Bloodlines Incoming freshman center Kai Maiava, a February signee from Hawaii, is the nephew of Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson. Another incoming freshman, linebacker Josh Hartigan, is the son of former Florida State and Washington Redskins linebacker/defensive end Sterling Palmer.

Traveling man Hawkins ventured to Florida for spring break to visit his friend, coach Urban Meyer, and see how the Gators do things. He attended meetings for three days. And after skydiving last summer, Hawkins was planning to run a marathon in Melbourne, Australia, in July.

Tough guys Jeff Grimes arrived from BYU to replace Chris Strausser as offensive line coach, and immediately his linemen found mean streaks. "I want it to be a battle every stinking play in there," Grimes says. There was more emphasis on finishing blocks than in the past. Players say Grimes stressed the need to be tougher more than his predecessors. Frequent scuffles broke out at spring practices.

Next in line Senior Jordon Dizon has a chance to leave CU as one of its greatest linebackers, which, considering the program's linebacking tradition, is saying something. He was credited with 137 tackles in 2006. If he nears that number in 2007, he'll finish among CU's top 5 tacklers ever.

2006 RESULTS

Record: 2-10 (2-6 Big 12)

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Att.
S. 2	Montana State	L	10-19	45,513
S. 9	at Colorado State	L	10-14	65,701
S. 16	Arizona State	L	3-21	47,723
S. 23	at Georgia	L	13-14	92,746
S. 30	at Missouri	L	13-28	57,824
O. 7	Baylor	(ot) L	31-34	47,065
O. 14	Texas Tech	W	30-6	50,233
O. 21	at Oklahoma	L	3-24	84,443
O. 28	at Kansas	L	15-20	39,313
N. 4	Kansas State	L	21-34	42,696
N. 11	Iowa State	W	33-16	43,056
N. 24	at Nebraska	L	14-37	85,800

Terrence Wheatley

2007 RECRUITING

CU is thinking big. Other programs have passed the Buffs in girth, so when Hawkins and his assistants hit the trail this year, they sought big bodies. They found more than a few.

CU signed eight players who weigh 280 pounds or more. The headliner of the group, Columbine tackle Ryan Miller, was reported to be 310 pounds. CU also listed Hawaii's Sione Tau at 310, but Hawkins said on Signing Day he was closer to 314. CU signed 13 linemen, eight offensive. With depleted numbers up front — only seven offensive linemen were available in spring — some of the incoming recruits must contribute immediately.

CU sought playmakers, too. Last year's leading receiver was redshirt freshman tight end Riar Geer, who caught all of 24 passes. Markques Simas and Josh Smith, rated two of California's top 10 prep receivers, plus Kendrick Celestine of Mamou, La., offer potential. Running back P.T. Gates, whom junior college teammates say remind them of Reggie Bush, has lots of academic work to complete in order to qualify.

Ethan Adkins	OG	6'5"	280	Castle Rock, CO
Ranked No. 30 offensive guard in the country by Scout.com.				
Tyler Ahles	LB	6'3"	235	San Bernardino, CA
Named first-team All-San Andreas League in football, track and wrestling.				
Matthew Bahr	OT	6'5"	285	Dove Canyon, CA
Named first-team All-South Coast League. Allowed only one sack in '05 and '06.				
Matt Ballenger	QB	6'4"	215	Nampa, ID
Named Idaho Gatorade Player of the Year in basketball and second-team All-Southern Idaho Conference in football. Ranked No. 23 quarterback in the country by Rivals.com.				
Blake Behrens	OG	6'4"	285	Phoenix, AZ
Named second-team All-American by EA Sports.				
Kendrick Celestine	WR	6'1"	185	Mamou, LA
Named first-team Class 2A All-State. Had 45 catches for 936 yards and 11 TDs in '06.				
Shawn Daniels	OG	6'3"	265	Evergreen, CO
Named first-team Class 5A All-State by the <i>Denver Post</i> .				
P.T. Gates	RB	5'11"	190	San Diego, CA
Transfer from Saddleback (Calif.) College. Ranked No. 9 JUCO prospect by <i>SuperPrep</i> . Rushed for 1,338 yards and 23 TDs in '06.				
Eugene Goree	DT	6'2"	285	Murfreesboro, TN
Named first-team Class 5A All-State by the TSWA.				
Josh Hartigan	LB	6'1"	210	Fort Lauderdale, FL
Named second-team All-Broward County. Father, Sterling Palmer, played in NFL.				
Jonathan Hawkins	CB	5'10"	185	Perris, CA
Had 90 tackles, three forced fumbles, two INTs and one sack as a senior.				

RECRUITING BREAKDOWN

By Position	By State
Offensive Linemen.....8	California 11
Defensive Backs 5	Colorado 4
Defensive Ends 4	Florida 2
Running Backs.....3	Hawaii 2
Wide Receivers 3	Pennsylvania 2
Linebackers 2	Tennessee 2
Quarterbacks.....2	Arizona 1
Defensive Tackles 1	Idaho 1
	Georgia 1
	Kansas 1
	Louisiana 1

Drew Hudgins	DE	6'4"	230	Spring Hills, KS
Transfer from Highland (Kan.) CC. Named first-team All-Jayhawk Conference.				
Mike Iltis	OG	6'3"	285	Sarasota, FL
Named second-team Class 6A All-State by the <i>Orlando Sentinel</i> .				
Devan Johnson	FB	6'1"	230	Turtle Creek, PA
Ranked No. 10 FB in the nation by Scout.com. Half-brother of NFL's Kevan Barlow.				
Brian Lockridge	RB	5'8"	175	Trabuco Canyon, CA
Named first-team All-South Coast League. Had 1,383 yards and 16 TDs as a senior.				
Kai Maiava	C	6'1"	290	Wailuku, HI
Father, Scott Mahoney (Colorado), uncle, Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson (Miami), and brother, Kaluka (USC), played football. Ranked No. 31 center in nation by Rivals.com.				
Nick Nelson	QB	6'1"	220	Mission Viejo, CA
Transfer from Saddleback College. Threw for 2,241 yards, 18 TDs and nine INTs in '06.				

SPOTLIGHT ON...RYAN MILLER

Tackle • 6'8" • 310 • Littleton, CO

Ryan Miller doesn't fancy himself as some savior whose arrival at CU will lure other touted recruits. But his signing holds great meaning to a program that's lost its swagger. Most of Colorado's top players in recent years left the state rather than sign with the Buffaloes. CU hadn't landed someone of Miller's magnitude in five seasons. And with glaring needs along the offensive line, Miller can play immediately, if he's ready.

Coach Dan Hawkins sees another side. "He's just such a great kid and that's what all good organizations are built on," Hawkins says. "They're built on great people. He's just one of those guys that's fun to have around, very humble guy, good personality, gregarious guy."

CU won a recruiting battle with Notre Dame for Miller. He says the challenge of being the state's top player and the high expectations that come with it only add motivation. The recruiting grind tried his patience, but in the end, he went where he felt most comfortable. "It's what fit me, and I wanted to be the hometown kid, a part of a new program," Miller says. "I wanted to be close to home."

Conrad Obi	DE	6'4"	245	Grayson, GA
Ranked No. 28 prospect in Georgia by <i>SuperPrep</i> .				
Anthony Perkins	S	5'11"	180	Northglenn, CO
Named Front Range League Player of the Year and first-team Class 5A All-State by <i>Denver Post</i> . Rushed for 1,628 yards and 15 TDs.				
Christopher Perri	DE	6'4"	270	Alameda, CA
Transfer from Laney (Calif.) College. Played at San Jose State as a freshman.				
Lagrone Shields	DE	6'4"	260	Memphis, TN
Had 97 tackles and 17 sacks as a senior; 103 tackles and 18 sacks as a junior.				
Markques Simas	WR	6'2"	195	San Diego, CA
Ranked No. 19 receiver in nation by Scout.com. Had 19 TD catches in '06.				
Josh Smith	WR	6'1"	185	Moorpark, CA
Received track scholarship offer from Harvard. Had 10 TD catches in '06.				
Lamont Smith	CB	5'9"	170	Penn Hills, PA
Named second-team Class AAAA All-State. Rushed for 990 yards and 13 TDs in '06.				
Sione Tau	OT	6'6"	310	Honolulu, HI
Ranked No. 5 prospect in Hawaii and No. 33 OT in country by Rivals.com.				
Nate Vaiomounga	S	5'11"	190	Corona, CA
Named All-Mountain View League, with 71 tackles and nine sacks, as a senior.				
Anthony Wright	S	6'0"	185	Compton, CA
Rushed for 1,168 yards and eight TDs, had 14 catches for 394 yards and five TDs on offense; 105 tackles, four INTs, two sacks and two TDs on defense as a senior.				



Gene Chizik had never met Alvin Bowen, but the new Iowa State coach had to like seeing the tattoo forever printed on his star linebacker's right forearm saying, "Earn your keep."

Those three words, along with some others like discipline, pain and competition, perfectly reflect the program Chizik is rebuilding in Ames. The first-time head coach will put the best players he finds on the field, whether they've been nobodies or All-Big 12 performers.

That applies to Bowen, who led the conference in total tackles (155) and the nation in stops per game (12.9) a year ago.

"That doesn't matter," Bowen says. "No spot is ever given, it's earned."

Every spot on this roster has been earned since Chizik took over for longtime coach Dan McCartney last November. The former Texas and Auburn defensive coordinator pushed his new players' mental and physical strength to new limits.

Will it help turn around a team that a year ago went 4-8 and won only one Big 12 game?

Time will tell, though the pre-dawn workouts and hard-hitting spring practices served as a sign of how far this team must go to reach Chizik's level of expectation.

"That's part of being a football player — doing things you don't want to do knowing that it's going to make you better," senior quarterback Bret Meyer says.

Quarterbacks Meyer has started 36 games over three seasons and barring something unforeseen will add at least 12 more onto his record-breaking career. The senior owns almost every ISU passing record and ranks second nationally (7,348) to Michigan's Chad Henne (7,777) among returning players in career passing yards. Meyer also is a decent runner and should make a run at the Big 12's total offense mark from his current spot at No. 6. The drop-off in experience behind Meyer is significant. Redshirt freshman Austen Arnaud has good size, speed and arm strength, but he hasn't played a down in college yet. He shouldn't have to this fall.

Running Backs Who the No. 1 back is won't be known until August when El Camino (Calif.) Junior College's J.J. Bass hits campus. If Bass, a 1,200-yard rusher last season, isn't the answer, it will be up to a group that can best be described as young, injury-prone and susceptible to fumbling. The starter coming out of spring ball and the most game-ready of ISU's backs is junior Jason Scales. Scales' run of injuries going back to his freshman season has soured the high expectations for him. He'll get another chance to prove himself this fall, though it might be his last. "I'm excited for the new season and new opportunity,"

Scales says. "Hopefully things will go well for me." Junior Jason Harris started his career on offense, moved to defensive back last season and returns to the backfield this year. He has breakaway speed, but fumbling seems to be his biggest hurdle. Sophomore Josh Johnson played sparingly last year as a true freshman. The Cyclones' running game has stalled the last several years, with only one 1,000-yard rusher (Stevie Hicks in '04) in the last five years. Last year's team average of 101.8 yards per game had better see a big jump.

NUMBERS GAME

1,000 Only once since 2001 has a Cyclone running back topped the 1,000-yard

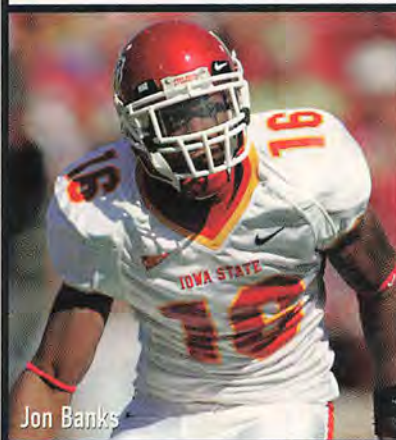
rushing mark in a season. Iowa State had a 1,000-yard rusher for seven consecutive seasons up to '01.

Receivers Folks have been clamoring for the ball to be in Todd Blythe's hands more his entire career. It's a wonder why it hasn't, considering the senior is on the verge of taking over every major receiving record in school history. Unless the wideouts lining up alongside him prove themselves, teams will continue focusing their coverage on Blythe, who at 6'5", 210 pounds is a matchup nightmare. Milan Moses put up big numbers over the final six games of 2006 and is expected to produce again. Junior R.J. Sumrall impressed coaches during spring ball while walk-on Euseph Messiah and sophomores Marquis Hamilton and Houston Jones are jockeying to be top backups. Wallace Franklin was a junior college All-American last year at Butler (Kan.) Community College and has good-enough size (6'3", 175) and speed (4.4 40-yard dash) to contribute immediately.

Offensive Linemen Having an all-conference-caliber quarterback doesn't do much good without a line capable of protecting him. ISU had enough problems keeping Meyer's jersey clean with veterans. This year there will be four new starters trying to keep him off the ground and create running lanes for Cyclone rushers. Tom Schmeling and Reggie Stephens are the only two Cyclone linemen with starting experience. A lot is expected from junior college transfers Doug Dedrick, Alex Alvarez and Joe Blaes, each of whom enrolled early and went through spring practice. Dedrick held down the starting left tackle spot through the spring, while the other two were running with the second team. Former defensive lineman Brandon

A QUICK LOOK AT THE CYCLONES

Gene Chizik and his coaching staff will be hard-pressed to avoid another poor season for Iowa State. The Cyclones return All-Big 12 quarterback **Bret Meyer** and receiver **Todd Blythe** but lose most of the impact players from last year's team that was lucky to win four games. Blythe has to get the ball in his hands more and hope a running game can emerge out of a group of unknowns and an offensive line that will be completely unproven. The defense is an even bigger concern. ISU allowed opponents an average of 30.8 points and 392.3 yards per game last season. Linebacker **Alvin Bowen** is the most proven commodity, though he can't make every tackle. Chizik's reputation as a defensive mastermind will be tested big time. What he does in the defensive backfield can only be an improvement as teams threw all over the young Cyclone secondary. Newcomers will get every opportunity to win starting jobs, and a handful of them likely will see their names atop the depth chart at some point this year. It's out with the old and in with the new for Chizik, a flat-topped, no-nonsense coach who won't be worried about hurting feelings in the name of success. Unfortunately for Chizik, wins will be hard to come by for this bunch.



Jon Banks

2007 SCHEDULE

A. 30	Kent State	W
S. 8	Northern Iowa	W
S. 15	Iowa	L
S. 22	at Toledo	W
S. 29	at Nebraska	L
O. 6	at Texas Tech	L
O. 13	Texas	L
O. 20	Oklahoma	L
O. 27	at Missouri	L
N. 3	Kansas State	L
N. 10	Colorado	*
N. 17	at Kansas	L

*Games in **bold** represent games crucial to the season. W or L indicates a projected win or loss.

Iowa State QB
Bret Meyer

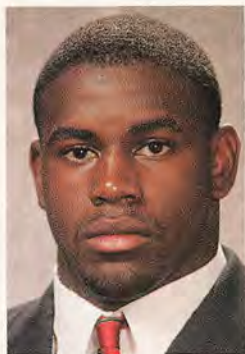


Johnson is at center and the starter going into preseason camp. A transfer from last year, Lee Tibbs, is the front-runner to be the No. 1 right tackle after a junior season in which the 6'4", 315-pounder did not crack the lineup.

Defensive Linemen This group is the great unknown for the Cyclones, who lost a four-year starter and the school's all-time leader in sacks. The most accomplished player left is nose guard Athyba Rubin, who switched from offensive to defensive line last year. There had better be some stars born this fall, or it could be a long year. "Everything starts with the defensive line," Chizik says. "If we have no defensive line we have no defense. It's that simple." Tackle Bryce Braaksma and end Rashawn Parker are high-energy players but undersized for their positions. The other expected starting end, junior Kurtis Taylor, is coming off a serious knee injury. Newcomers almost surely will contribute in a backup role at worst. Junior college transfers Chris Lyle (end), Michael Tate (tackle) and Chris Weir (tackle) are coming to town with their sights set on playing right away. The depth is so shallow up front that they may have to.

RISING STAR

If **Rashawn Parker** can duplicate his debut performance from a year ago, the sophomore will be All-Big 12 before he knows it. The 6'0", 250-pound defensive end is undersized but has deceptive speed off the edge. Big things are expected out of Parker with the inexperience ISU has with its front four.



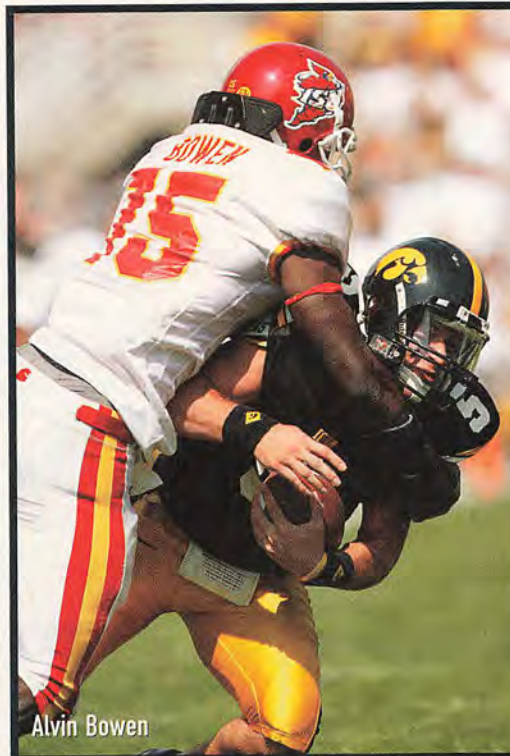
SCOUTING THE CYCLONES

Opposing coaches size up Iowa State: "First of all, I think it was a huge mistake by Iowa State officials to fire Dan McCarney. But I also believe they made a helluva good hire with Gene Chizik. ... The cupboard Chizik inherits isn't completely bare, but it isn't that well-stocked, either. ... Offensively, they have a couple of outstanding playmakers in quarterback Bret Meyer and wide receiver Todd Blythe. That passing combination better light it up, because I'm not sure they will have any running game to speak of. The offensive line doesn't look very good, and the running backs are unproven, at best. ... You know that Chizik will eventually get the defense going. That's what he does best. But it will probably take some time, and it will definitely take some recruiting. The linebackers, especially Alvin Bowen, are pretty good. But they gave up 30 points and almost 400 yards per game last year. And aside from Bowen, the talent may not be any better this season."

Linebackers It will be a heck of an encore if Bowen can repeat his 155-tackle season of a year ago, his first as a starter. He won't be expected to, though playing for a defense under a coach with Chizik's pedigree is motivation to again make first-team All-Big 12. The rest of ISU's defensive coaches are awfully accomplished as well. "We know that they expect a lot out of us and we have to live up to it," Bowen says. Senior Jon Banks is the only player who appears to have locked up one of the other linebacking spots. Others who will figure in include junior Adam Carper and sophomores Fred Garrin and Jesse Smith. Carper is coming off a knee injury but has proven himself as a capable player. Junior college transfer Michael Bibbs comes in with good size (6'2", 230) and credentials.

Defensive Backs No defense in Division I-A saw opponents complete a higher percentage of their passes (72.5 percent) than the Cyclones last season. Not all that was the secondary's fault, but this group had better be improved this year. Thrown into the fire in '06, ISU's young group of defensive backs knows what to expect now. Safety Caleb Berg is the only senior. Chris Singleton started all year long at one corner and was the most consistent. He's back, along with youngsters Devin McDowell, Drenard Williams, Chris Brown, Steve Johnson and Zac Sandvig. Injured most of last year when he was expected to start, sophomore safety James Smith is out to prove himself as has the edge coming out of spring ball.

Specialists Former walk-on Bret Culbertson has become one of the steadiest field goal kickers in Iowa State history and will be the starter again for his final season. He's never missed an extra-point try and has hit 75.7 percent (28-of-37) of his field goals. Sophomore Mike Brandtner is back after averaging 41.2 yards per punt last season. As for the return game, Moses showed he can be an explosive returner on kickoffs. Sumrall is the only current player who has experience catching punts, though cornerbacks Williams, McDowell and Sandvig possess those skills as well.



Alvin Bowen

KEY CYCLONES

Bret Meyer, QB

School's total offense record-holder has started since he was a freshman.

Todd Blythe, WR

He's been Meyer's go-to guy and will be playing on Sundays next fall.

Alvin Bowen, LB

Future pro doesn't just tackle ball-carriers; he usually punishes them.

Bret Culbertson, K

His only misses seem to come when it counts most, unfortunately.

Milan Moses, KR

Receiver was explosive on kickoffs last year with a 21.7-yard average.

KEY LOSSES

Scott Stephenson, OL

The best and most physical O-lineman.

Brent Curvey, DT

Was the foundation of the Cyclones' defensive line for four years.

Tyrone McKenzie, LB

Had 129 tackles in his only season at ISU. Now at South Florida.

Ryan Kock, FB

Hard-nosed, team-first guy will be missed for more than game day work.

DeAndre Jackson, CB

All-Big 12-caliber player was team's top cover guy.

PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE (4)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 1	Todd Blythe	Sr.
WR 32	Milan Moses	Sr.
WR 5	R.J. Sumrall	Jr.
LT 75	Doug Dedrick	So.
LG 73	Reggie Stephens	So.
C 60	Brandon Johnson	Jr.
RG 70	Tom Schmeling	Jr.
RT 76	Lee Tibbs	Sr.
TE 41	Ben Barkema	Sr.
QB 7	Bret Meyer	Sr.
RB	J.J. Bass	Jr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 82	Marquis Hamilton	So.
WR 14	Houston Jones	So.
WR	Wallace Franklin	Jr.
LT 67	Matt Hulbert	Fr.
LG 66	Joe Blaes	Jr.
C 70	Tom Schmeling	Jr.
RG 77	Alex Alvarez	So.
RT 67	Matt Hulbert	Fr.
TE 80	Brandon Tinlin	Sr.
QB 4	Austen Arnaud	Fr.
RB 6	Jason Scales	Jr.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE (5)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 29	Rashawn Parker	So.
NG 71	Athyba Rubin	Sr.
DT	Michael Tate	Jr.
DE 47	Kurtis Taylor	Jr.
SLB 16	Jon Banks	Sr.
MLB 10	Adam Carper	Jr.
WLB 15	Alvin Bowen	Sr.
CB 11	Chris Singleton	Jr.
CB	Allen Bell	Jr.
SS 21	Caleb Berg	Sr.
FS 2	James Smith	So.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE	Chris Lyle	Jr.
NG 62	Nate Frere	So.
DT 93	Bryce Braaksma	Sr.
DE	Randy Kellman	Fr.
SLB	Michael Bibbs	Jr.
MLB 43	Fred Garrin	So.
WLB 54	Jesse Smith	So.
CB 6	Chris Brown	Jr.
CB 7	Drenard Williams	So.
SS 20	Brandon Hunley	Jr.
FS	Allen Bell	Jr.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos. No.	Name	Class
K 37	Bret Culbertson	Sr.
P 13	Mike Brandtner	So.
KR 32	Milan Moses	Sr.
PR 5	R.J. Sumrall	Jr.

Returning Starters in Bold

2007 IOWA STATE ROSTER

Quarterbacks					Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
4	Arnaud, Austen	QB	6'3"	222	Fr.				Ames, IA
18	Meachelsen, Nate	QB	6'2"	209	Sr.				Kamrar, IA
7	Meyer, Bret	QB	6'3"	204	Sr.				Atlantic, IA
Running Backs					Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
45	Ebner, Steven	FB	5'10"	228	Sr.				Sioux City, IA
29	Ekwelundu, Brian	FB	5'11"	231	So.				Corpus Christi, TX
22	Harris, Jason	RB	5'11"	208	Jr.				Clearwater, FL
21	Johnson, Josh	RB	5'11"	216	So.				Ponca City, OK
26	Mansfield, Taylor	FB	6'1"	255	Fr.				Decorah, IA
6	Scales, Jason	RB	5'9"	217	Jr.				W. Des Moines, IA
39	Thompson Jr., Ricky	RB	5'9"	203	Jr.				Ames, IA
Receivers					Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
41	Barkema, Ben	TE	6'3"	252	Sr.				Muscatine, IA
1	Blythe, Todd	WR	6'5"	210	Sr.				Indianola, IA
84	Catlett, Derrick	TE	6'4"	251	So.				Fort Collins, CO
25	Chike, Zak	WR	6'0"	187	Fr.				Rochester, NY
82	Hamilton, Marquis	WR	6'3"	217	So.				Oklahoma City, OK
14	Jones, Houston	WR	6'1"	182	So.				Oklahoma City, OK
88	Lamaak, Ben	TE	6'4"	292	Fr.				Cedar Rapids, IA
86	Lillie, Justin	WR	6'5"	218	So.				Earlham, IA
9	Messiah, Euseph	WR	5'10"	174	Jr.				Bettendorf, IA
2	Montgomery, Derron	WR	6'1"	176	Fr.				Garland, TX
32	Moses, Milan	WR	6'1"	201	Sr.				Waterloo, IA
36	Scribbins, Matt	WR	6'3"	207	So.				Clear Lake, IA
5	Sumrall, R.J.	WR	6'1"	200	Jr.				Orlando, FL
80	Tinlin, Brandon	TE	6'4"	254	Sr.				S. Lake Tahoe, CA
24	Williams, Jake	WR	6'2"	195	Fr.				W. Des Moines, IA
17	Zitek, Joel	WR	6'2"	199	So.				Ulysses, NE
Offensive Linemen					Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
77	Alvarez, Alex	G	6'2"	290	So.				League City, TX
66	Blaes, Joe	G	6'2"	297	Jr.				Cherryvale, KS
75	Dedrick, Doug	T	6'4"	271	So.				Tempe, AZ
67	Hulbert, Matt	T	6'7"	280	Fr.				Ankeny, IA
60	Johnson, Brandon	C	6'3"	309	Jr.				Rushville, NE
52	Knapp, Mike	OL	6'3"	271	So.				W. Des Moines, IA
70	Schmeling, Tom	G/C	6'3"	295	Jr.				Atlantic, IA
61	Slobidsky, Nick	OL	6'2"	305	Jr.				Naperville, IL
50	Smith, Sean	OL	6'4"	266	Fr.				Wildwood, MO
65	Steinbach, Patrick	OL	6'8"	304	Fr.				Albia, IA
73	Stephens, Reggie	G	6'3"	322	So.				Rowlett, TX
59	Streit, Landon	OL	6'5"	316	Jr.				Barnum, IA
76	Tibbs, Lee	T	6'4"	315	Sr.				Oklahoma City, OK
74	Vanstrom, Joe	OL	6'6"	299	Jr.				Ham Lake, MN
79	Vargas, Jose	OL	6'3"	327	Fr.				Sulphur Springs, TX
53	Vencil, Evan	OL	6'3"	255	So.				Ankeny, IA
55	Walker, Anthony	OL	6'2"	290	Sr.				Spencer, OK
Defensive Linemen					Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
96	Alburtis, Austin	DL	6'2"	266	Fr.				Dallas, TX
93	Braaksma, Bryce	DT	6'3"	254	Sr.				Sheldon, IA
83	Ferguson, Travis	DL	6'5"	250	Jr.				Waterloo, IA
62	Frere, Nate	DL	6'2"	306	So.				Muscatine, IA
Linebackers					Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
16	Banks, Jon	SLB	6'2"	219	Sr.				East Moline, IL
15	Bowen, Alvin	WLB	6'2"	216	Sr.				East Orange, NJ
10	Carper, Adam	MLB	6'3"	216	Jr.				Clarinda, IA
51	Fick, Evan	LB	6'0"	185	So.				Mitchellville, IA
43	Garrin, Fred	MLB	6'1"	217	So.				Shepherd, TX
57	Grochala, Matt	LB	5'9"	202	Fr.				Des Moines, IA
42	Leaders, Matt	LB	6'0"	210	Fr.				Omaha, NE
46	Means, Kris	LB	6'0"	234	Fr.				Grand Junction, CO
35	Mehring, Chris	LB	5'10"	213	Sr.				Oak Lawn, IL
32	Raven, Josh	LB	5'11"	221	So.				Fort Myers, FL
24	Schmidgall, Derec	LB	6'1"	223	So.				Lincoln, NE
54	Smith, Jesse	WLB	6'0"	233	So.				Altoona, IA
44	Zimmerman, Troy	LB	6'2"	213	So.				Bettendorf, IA
Defensive Backs					Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
21	Berg, Caleb	SS	6'1"	202	Sr.				York, NE
6	Brown, Chris	CB	5'10"	171	Jr.				Gainesville, TX
33	Conklin, Joe	DB	5'10"	174	So.				Davenport, IA
38	Ervin, Brady	DB	6'2"	205	Fr.				Eden Prairie, MN
34	Harklau, Nick	DB	6'0"	183	So.				Humboldt, IA
20	Hunley, Brandon	SS	5'11"	201	Jr.				Grandview, MO
23	Johnson, Steve	DB	5'11"	196	So.				Denver, CO
9	McDowell, Devin	DB	5'9"	174	Fr.				Garland, TX
37	O'Connell, Michael	DB	6'0"	200	Fr.				Cedar Rapids, IA
31	Rumple, Justin	DB	6'3"	204	Fr.				Casey, IA
14	Sandvig, Zac	DB	5'10"	183	Fr.				W. Des Moines, IA
11	Singleton, Chris	CB	5'10"	191	Jr.				Fort Myers, FL
2	Smith, James	FS	5'8"	192	So.				Council Bluffs, IA
7	Williams, Drenard	CB	5'11"	175	So.				Beaumont, TX
Specialists					Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
13	Brandtner, Mike	P	6'1"	208	So.				Bettendorf, IA
37	Culbertson, Bret	K	6'6"	179	Sr.				Des Moines, IA
19	Griebahn, Josh	K	5'8"	207	Sr.				Iowa City, IA
11	Mahoski, Chris	K	5'10"	178	So.				Bettendorf, IA
46	McMahon, Connor	K	5'11"	221	Fr.				Fairfield, IA
48	Purvis, Matt	LS	6'2"	227	Sr.				Tempe, AZ
45	Wonders, David	LS	6'0"	274	Fr.				Waukee, IA

Head Coach: Gene Chizik • Record at School: First Season • Career Record: First Season

Offensive Coordinator: Robert McFarland • Defensive Coordinator: Wayne Bolt • Ames, Iowa • Jack Trice Stadium (46,721)

2006 INDIVIDUAL STATS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.
Bret Meyer	374	211	2,546	12	12

Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Stevie Hicks	107	523	4.9	2
Ryan Kock	74	332	4.5	6
Bret Meyer	137	177	1.3	6

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Austin Flynn	41	470	11.5	0
Jon Davis	36	508	14.1	2
Todd Blythe	34	484	14.2	8
R.J. Sumrall	25	310	12.4	0

Kicking: Bret Culbertson, 8-11 FGs, 24-24 XPs, 48 points

Tackles: Alvin Bowen, 155; Tyrone McKenzie, 129

Sacks: Shawn Moorehead, 8.5

Interceptions: Chris Singleton, 2

Returning Players in Bold



OUTSIDE THE HUDDLE

Rivalry game The most anticipated sporting event in the state of Iowa has become one of the most expensive. People wanting to get into Jack Trice Stadium for this year's Iowa-Iowa State football game must pay for a season's worth of ISU games under athletic director Jamie Pollard's plan to build up the school's fan base. The lowest priced ticket is \$125. Iowa fans, of course, are making the most noise, but odds are there still will be 50,000-plus in attendance on Sept. 15.

Box office hit Pollard's plan to grow ISU's season-ticket base has worked. A year after selling a record 30,728, the athletic department has remained aggressive with plenty of time before the Aug. 30 opener against Kent State. There's been more than 3,500 extra purchases either from existing ticket-holders wanting more or fans buying tickets for the first time. "Like a coach adding new recruits, we are always looking for new Cyclone fans," Pollard said.

Mack & Chiz The student will face his mentor Oct. 13 when Mack Brown leads Texas into Ames to play Iowa State and former Longhorn defensive coordinator Gene Chizik. Chizik has talked glowingly about Brown, one of the most respected coaches in the game and someone Chizik considers a major influence on his career. The two talk often. "It's kind of odd since we are in the same league, but that's the way it goes," Chizik said. "I rely a lot on Mack. He's all about class and integrity. Everything I believe in right now he is."

Start me up Only the strong survived the first few months of the Chizik era. The new coach and his staff began with body-changing workouts before sunrise, followed up by a spring practice regimen that was as physical as it's been in Ames in some time. "Those 5:30 a.m. workouts were not easy," says senior quarterback Bret Meyer. "You were dreading getting up, but when you got there it was like, 'Let's go.'"

2006 RESULTS

Record: 4-8 (1-7 Big 12)

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Att.
A. 31	Toledo	(3ot) W	45-43	42,531
S. 9	UNLV	W	16-10	45,795
S. 16	at Iowa	L	17-27	70,585
S. 23	at Texas	L	14-37	88,972
S. 30	Northern Iowa	W	28-27	55,518
O. 7	Nebraska	L	14-28	55,338
O. 14	at Oklahoma	L	9-34	84,152
O. 21	Texas Tech	L	26-42	44,112
O. 28	at Kansas State	L	10-31	44,729
N. 4	Kansas	L	10-41	40,272
N. 11	at Colorado	L	16-33	43,056
N. 18	Missouri	W	21-16	39,631

Larry Smith

Todd Blythe

2007 RECRUITING

Gene Chizik's first recruiting class was heavy on two things: junior college transfers and offensive linemen. Coming off a 4-8 season that could have been even worse, the need for immediate help was very apparent considering the losses of several key seniors and a short window of time to recruit. "We were on a scramble," Chizik says. "When we identified a need and we felt junior college was our best option, that's what we did."

Eight offensive linemen are among the 25-man class, including three transfers who arrived early and participated in spring practices. Their presence needs to be felt on the depth chart, at worst as backups. Expectations are high for tailback J.J. Bass, a 6'1", 210-pounder from El Camino (Calif.) CC. Bass was one of the most coveted junior college ball-carriers in the country and could win the starting spot with ISU's tailback position in such disarray.

Defensive back Allen Bell and linebacker Michael Bibbs also will be given every chance to earn their way into the starting lineup. Bibbs played at the same school as former Cyclone and current San Diego Charger linebacker Tim Dobbins.

Alex Alvarez G 6'3" 290 League City, TX
Transfer from Kilgore (Texas) CC. Started 12 games at left tackle in '06.

J.J. Bass RB 6'1" 210 Altamonte Springs, FL
Transfer from El Camino (Calif.) CC. Ranked No. 2 JUCO running back by *SuperPrep* and No. 14 JUCO prospect by Rivals.com. Rushed for 1,200 yards and 13 TDs in '06.

Phillip Bates QB 6'2" 189 Omaha, NE
Ranked No. 3 prospect in Nebraska and No. 16 dual-threat quarterback in the country by Rivals.com. Threw for 1,756 yards and 17 TDs; rushed for 517 yards and nine TDs as a senior. Father, Phillip Sr., played football at Nebraska and in the NFL.

Trey Baysinger T 6'6" 290 Dallas, TX
Named All-Class 5A District 11 by the *Dallas Morning News*.

Allen Bell CB 6'2" 190 Tallahassee, FL
Transfer from Independence (Kan.) CC. Ranked No. 55 JUCO prospect by Rivals.com. Named first-team JUCO All-America by Scout.com. Also a KJCC track star.

Cameron Bell RB 6'1" 215 Round Rock, TX
Rushed for 909 yards and 11 TDs in seven games as a senior.

Michael Bibbs LB 6'2" 230 Atlanta, GA
Transfer from Copiah-Lincoln (Miss.) CC. Had 69 tackles, one sack and one INT in '06.

Jerrold Black DT 6'2" 285 Houston, TX
Named first-team All-Greater Houston Area by the *Houston Chronicle* and Class 5A District 2 Defensive MVP. Had 121 tackles, eight sacks and one INT as a senior.

Joe Blaes G 6'2" 295 Coffeyville, KS
Transfer from Coffeyville (Kan.) CC. Named first-team KJCCC and second-team NJCAA All-America in '06. Ranked No. 54 JUCO prospect by Rivals.com.

Fabian Brown LB 6'3" 230 Des Moines, IA
Ranked No. 7 prospect in Iowa by Rivals.com and No. 29 strong side linebacker in the nation by Scout.com. Recorded 70 tackles, five sacks and five forced fumbles in '06.

James Carpenter G 6'4" 300 Hephzibah, GA
Named All-Area by the *Augusta Chronicle* as a senior.

Collin Franklin TE 6'6" 230 Simi Valley, CA
Transfer from College of the Canyons (Calif.). Had six catches for two TDs in '06.

Wallace Franklin WR 6'3" 175 Beaumont, TX
Transfer from Butler (Kan.) CC. Named first-team All-KJCCC and NJCAA All-American. Registered 24 catches for 514 yards and seven TDs in '06.

SPOTLIGHT ON... DOUG DEDRICK

Offensive Tackle • 6'5" • 285 • Tempe, AZ

Doug Dedrick's mom, Cary, had a hand in getting him to Ames. She attended the school for a year, which ISU coaches used in landing the Scottsdale (Ariz.) Community College offensive lineman. "We were like vultures on that," head coach Gene Chizik says.

Dedrick enrolled at ISU in January and has emerged as a front-runner to start at left tackle. He would appear to be a bit undersized to play the position in the Big 12, with most left tackles measuring upwards of 300 pounds.

Dedrick hopes to get up around that 300 mark by the start of the season. He does have some other things working in his favor.

"I'm more of an athletic guy," Dedrick says. "Athleticism, quickness, overall strength and body control is how I'm going to beat people."

He's one of three junior college transfers to hit campus early, and expectations are high for an immediate impact. ISU lost five senior offensive linemen from last year's top eight.

Anthony Green LB 6'0" 220 Missouri City, TX
Recorded 80 tackles, three forced fumbles and one INT returned for a TD as a senior. Ranked No. 62 strong side linebacker in the country by Scout.com.

Randy Kellman DE 6'6" 261 Kissimmee, FL
Recorded 50 tackles and 10 sacks as a senior. Originally from London, England.

Joseph Klerekoper T 6'6" 295 Longview, TX
Named second-team Class 4A District 12 as a senior.

Chris Lyle DE 6'4" 255 Waldorf, MD
Transfer from Butler (Kan.) CC. Recorded eight sacks and a defensive TD in '06.

Curtiz Mathis LB 6'3" 215 Harvey, IL
Had 82 tackles, five forced fumbles and an INT returned for a TD as a senior.

A.J. Matthews LB 6'3" 185 Clearwater, FL
Recorded 107 tackles and six sacks as a senior; four INTs as a junior.

Joe McMahon G 6'4" 290 Joliet, IL
Transfer from Joliet (Ill.) JC. Named NJCAA All-American in '06.

Kelechi Osemele T 6'5" 298 Houston, TX
Named second-team Class 5A District 17 by *TexasPrepExtra.com*.

Alex Sandvig WR 6'0" 180 West Des Moines, IA
Ranked No. 8 prospect in Iowa by Rivals.com. Named first-team CIML All-Conference and first-team All-State by the *Iowa Newspaper Association*.

Michael Tate DT 6'5" 285 Brenham, TX
Transfer from Blinn (Texas) JC. Redshirt member of Arkansas scout team in '04. Ranked No. 8 prospect in Oklahoma and No. 39 strong side defensive end in nation by Rivals.com.

Chris Weir DE 6'3" 270 Miami, FL
Transfer from Independence (Kan.) CC. Named second-team KJCCC. Had 52 tackles, six sacks and two forced fumbles in '06. Named All-Miami Dade County in HS.

RECRUITING BREAKDOWN

By Position

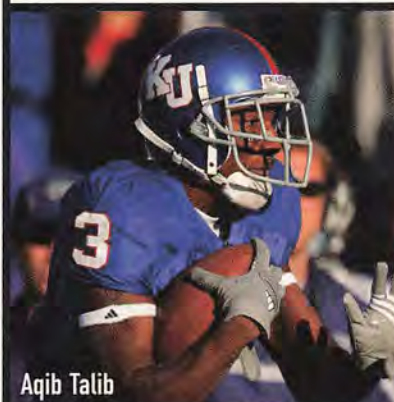
Offensive Linemen.....	8
Linebackers	5
Defensive Ends	3
Defensive Tackles	2
Running Backs	2
Wide Receivers	2
Defensive Backs	1
Quarterbacks	1
Tight Ends	1

By State

Texas	9
Florida	5
Georgia	2
Illinois	2
Iowa	2
Arizona	1
California	1
Kansas	1
Maryland	1
Nebraska	1

**A QUICK LOOK AT THE JAYHAWKS**

Instead of celebrating a Big 12 North title and a bowl berth, Kansas spent the offseason gnashing its teeth over a series of late-game meltdowns that spoiled what could've been one of its best seasons in years. Now things get tougher. Some of KU's more manageable conference games (Texas A&M, Oklahoma State and Colorado) are on the road. And the Jayhawks gave up what would've been a home field advantage by agreeing to play Missouri at a neutral site. Kansas is 2-18 in Big 12 road games during the Mark Mangino era, a baffling stat that will have to improve if the Jayhawks have any hopes of playing in the postseason. The loss of Big 12 rushing leader Jon Cornish leaves KU without a proven playmaker on offense, although tailback Jake Sharp certainly has the tools to assume that role. Another key will be the performance of quarterbacks Kerry Meier and Todd Reesing, who both made too many ill-advised passes in 2006. The addition of junior college transfers Kendrick Harper and Patrick Resby should drastically improve KU's horrendous secondary, but don't be surprised if a mediocre defensive line struggles once again to put pressure on opposing signal-callers. KU fans should be happy with anything better than 6-6.

**Aqib Talib****2007 SCHEDULE**

S. 1	Central Michigan	*
S. 8	SE Louisiana	W
S. 15	Toledo	W
S. 22	Florida International	W
O. 6	at Kansas State	L
O. 13	Baylor	W
O. 20	at Colorado	*
O. 27	at Texas A&M	L
N. 3	Nebraska	L
N. 10	at Oklahoma State	L
N. 17	Iowa State	W
N. 24	#Missouri	L
#Kansas City, MO		

*Games in **bold** represent games crucial to the season.
W or L indicates a projected win or loss

Larry Smith

Fans are buying season tickets in record numbers, their coach just got a fat new contract and construction is underway on a state-of-the-art facility that's expected to cost \$31 million. It's no stretch to say that support for Kansas football is at an all-time high these days in Lawrence. Now if only the Jayhawks could live up to their end of the bargain.

No one can argue that KU has become a more competitive team under sixth-year coach Mark Mangino. Kansas lost a pair of games in the final minute last season and suffered two more setbacks in overtime. A different outcome in just a few of those contests would've given the Jayhawks an 8-4 record and a shot at the Big 12 North title. Instead Mangino's squad finished 6-6 and failed to receive a bowl bid.

Even worse is that Kansas is just 2-18 in Big 12 road games under Mangino and has never fared better than 3-5 in conference play. The Jayhawks may be playing teams closer — but they're still losing. KU has only had one winning season since 1995.

"We like the direction our program is headed," Mangino says. "This isn't a sprint. It's a marathon. If we stay the course, we'll succeed."

That may not be easy this year. Along with replacing Big 12 rushing leader Jon Cornish, Kansas will have to shore up a pass defense that ranked last in the country in 2006. Add a few unproven quarterbacks and a tough schedule to the mix, and Kansas' 2007 season looks as if it could be a whirlwind once again.

Quarterbacks Kerry Meier returns after starting eight games as a freshman in 2006, but it's not as if he was a huge success. Meier began forcing passes as the competition improved throughout the year, and he struggled to adjust when his primary receiver was covered. Meier, though, is incredibly fast and aggressive for his size, and he can keep opposing defenses on their heels because of his ability to both run and pass. Kansas' offense was at its best when Meier carried more than 10 times per game. With Meier injured, sophomore Todd Reesing played in three of KU's final four games last year and did an admirable job. Reesing isn't as athletic as Meier, but his ability to elude the pass rush gives KU's receivers extra time to get open, and Reesing has proven he can capitalize with his strong arm. Spring practice ended with Reesing pushing Meier for his starting job. "For the first time we feel like we have two starting quarterbacks," Mangino says. "We're just looking for one to completely take over the job."

Running Backs Cornish set a school record by rushing for 1,457 yards last year, so replacing him won't be easy. The plan

entering August two-a-days is to divvy up the carries between scat back Jake Sharp and Brandon McAnderson, a bruiser who's been used primarily as a fullback for the past three seasons. Sharp is a former state track champion who ranks second in Kansas high school history in career rushing yards. But at 5'10" and 190 pounds, Sharp may be too small to handle the punishment that comes along with 20-25 carries per game. "I've always been a track guy," Sharp says. "So I've never really had to bulk up. To stay healthy in the Big 12 you need to weigh around 195 or 200. I'm definitely working on it. I'll get to where I need to be by this fall." McAnderson isn't flashy, but his powerful legs should help him pick up some yards after contact. Redshirt freshman Donte Bean could also enter the mix along with true freshman Carmon Boyd-Anderson.

NUMBERS GAME

5 Kansas lost five games in which it led in the second half last year. Two of those setbacks came in the final minute of the fourth quarter — and two more were in overtime.

Receivers Kansas has lost two key receivers over the past two seasons (Mark Simmons, 2005 and Brian Murph, '06) and has done little in the way of recruiting to replace them. The biggest threat on KU's receiving corps this season will likely be junior Dexton Fields, who caught a team-high 45 passes last season. Fields is good at making the highlight reel catch and has a history of coming up with key grabs in clutch situations. Lanky senior Marcus Henry caught six passes for 150 yards and three touchdowns in the spring game, but he hardly stood out during his first three seasons in Lawrence. Junior Marcus Herford may be one of the top athletes on the team, but Kansas rarely calls his number on pass plays. Other than that, the Jayhawks' most dependable target is tight end Derek Fine, who most KU fans felt wasn't used nearly enough in 2006, when he had only 28 receptions.

Offensive Linemen Three starters are gone from 2006, but coaches are optimistic that this group will be just as strong. Left tackle Anthony Collins is an NFL prospect who will contend for all-leagues honors, while right tackle Cesar Rodriguez (formerly the starter on the left side) returns for his third season as a starter. Slated to play right guard is 315-pounder Chet Hartley, who was one of the country's most sought-after junior college linemen. Hartley enrolled in January and went through spring drills with the



Kansas QB
Kerry Meier

Jayhawks. The question marks are at left guard, where former walk-on Adrian Mayes is listed atop the depth chart, and at center, where Ryan Cantrell is expected to start despite appearing in only three games last season. A lack of depth could also be a major factor for this group.

Defensive Linemen One of the reasons for KU's horrendous pass defense last season was a lack of pressure by the Jayhawks' front line. That could be a key area of concern again this season, considering Kansas returns only one standout performer in senior tackle James McClinton, who had 14 tackles for a loss in 2006. Playing alongside McClinton will be Todd Haselhorst, a junior who played sparingly last year because of recurring shoulder problems. Backup Caleb Blakesley was the top recruit in all of Kansas coming out of Ottawa High School two years ago. Defensive end Russell Brorsen had become a starter by the end of last season and was beginning to show positive signs. Still, this unit won't be nearly as good as the one that led the Big 12 in rush defense in 2005.

RISING STAR

A last minute in-home visit from Florida



State coach Bobby Bowden wasn't enough to keep highly sought offensive lineman Chet Hartley from signing with the Jayhawks. The 315-pounder from Butler County (Kan.) Community College will be a

huge key for an offensive line that lost three starters.

Linebackers This may be the speediest group of linebackers KU has fielded since Mangino's arrival in 2002. Arist Wright and James Holt were both starting on the outside by the end of the 2006 season. Former starting outside linebacker Joe Mortensen has moved to middle linebacker, where he ended spring drills as the starter ahead of Mike Rivera. Still, Rivera may be the top player in this bunch. The 6'3", 250-pound Rivera led KU with 90 tackles last season. Although he's blessed with NFL speed, Rivera has been criticized for disappearing at times during games. Look for converted safety Olaitan Oguntodu, who played as a true freshman, to see significant time as a backup.

Defensive Backs There aren't many cornerbacks in the country as talented as 6'2" standout Aqib Talib, who opted to return for his junior season instead of entering the NFL Draft. Talib led the country in passes defended last season while tying for first in the Big 12 in interceptions with six. Along with picking off passes, Talib's main job this year will be to provide leadership for a defensive backfield that allowed a national-worst 269.1 passing yards per game last year. Kansas' secondary should be greatly improved. Junior college transfer Kendrick Harper has won the other cornerback spot. Sophomore Anthony Webb — who saw significant action as a true freshman — should be a solid backup. Expect free safety Darrell Stuckey to take some quantum leaps after missing most of last season with an injury. Look for highly medaled junior college transfer Patrick Resby to start at strong safety.

Specialists This area may be one of KU's biggest strengths. Senior kicker Scott Webb is a third-year starter who has made 27 of his last 37 field goal attempts. Punter Kyle Tucker was one of 10 semi-finalists for the Ray Guy Award two years ago. He was solid again last season despite some misleading stats. Herford finished ranked third in the league and 18th nationally with a 26.1-yard average on kickoff returns. The Jayhawks, though, need to do a better job of covering kicks.



Mike Rivera

KEY JAYHAWKS

Aqib Talib, CB

Kansas' best defensive player led the nation in pass break-ups in 2006.

Anthony Collins, LT

Expect 2007 to be the coming-out party for the Jayhawks' top lineman.

James McClinton, DT

Third-year starter tied for second in the Big 12 with 14 tackles for a loss.

Mike Rivera, LB

NFL scouts love his combination of size and speed; needs a breakthrough year.

Kerry Meier, QB

Effective on the ground and through the air, but needs to improve decision-making.

KEY LOSSES

Jon Cornish, RB

Set KU's single season rushing record with Big 12-best 1,457 yards in 2006.

Brian Murph, WR

Team-high 467 receiving yards in '06.

David Ochoa, C

KU will miss his leadership in the trenches.

Jonathan Lamb, PR

Former walk-on became one of the league's most dependable return men.

Wayne Wilder, DT

Key cog for Big 12's third-ranked rush defense.

SCOUTING THE JAYHAWKS

Opposing coaches size up Kansas: "The Jayhawks were really the hard-luck team of the year last season. They lost two overtime games and two more by three points or less. It could have been a great year for KU; instead it was rather mediocre. ... I really like how Mark Mangino has them competing; they fight and scratch and claw. Kerry Meier is a solid quarterback, but replacing (running back) Jon Cornish is going to be tough on them. ... Dexter Fields is a good receiver, and Derek Fine is a really solid tight end. Their offensive line has some holes to fill. ... Defensively, they do a good job of stopping the run. The lineman, James McClinton, is a really solid player and the linebacker, Mike Rivera, is very underrated. The young man I like the most, though, is the cornerback, Aqib Talib. You go into a game trying to avoid throwing in his direction. They need to take care of business in their non-conference schedule; it's pretty weak outside Toledo. If they run the table in non-conference play, they could develop enough confidence to be a contender in the North."

PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE (5)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 86	Marcus Henry	Sr.
WR 88	Dexton Fields	Jr.
WR 13	Marcus Herford	Jr.
LT 78	Anthony Collins	Jr.
LG 66	Adrian Mayes	Jr.
C 50	Ryan Cantrell	Jr.
RG 79	Chet Hartley	Jr.
RT 65	Cesar Rodriguez	Sr.
TE 85	Derek Fine	Sr.
QB 10	Kerry Meier	So.
RB 1	Jake Sharp	So.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 82	Jeff Foster	Sr.
WR 22	Angus Quigley	So.
WR 38	Raymond Brown	Jr.
LT 60	Jose Rodriguez	So.
LG 70	Matt Darton	Jr.
C 55	John Marshall	Fr.
RG 67	Rameses Arceo	Jr.
RT 63	Ian Wolfe	Fr.
TE 83	Marc Jones	Sr.
QB 5	Todd Reesing	So.
RB 35	Brandon McAnderson	Sr.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE (6)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 81	Russell Brorsen	Jr.
DT 72	Todd Haselhorst	Jr.
DT 93	James McClinton	Sr.
DE 87	John Larson	Jr.
OLB 12	James Holt	Jr.
MLB 40	Mike Rivera	Jr.
OLB 41	Arist Wright	So.
CB 3	Aqib Talib	Jr.
CB 24	Kendrick Harper	Jr.
SS 7	Patrick Resby	Jr.
FS 25	Darrell Stuckey	So.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 84	Jeff Wheeler	So.
DT 99	Jamal Greene	Fr.
DT 94	Caleb Blakesley	So.
DE 47	Maxwell Onyegbule	Fr.
OLB 58	Jake Schermer	So.
MLB 8	Joe Mortensen	Jr.
OLB 44	Olaitan Ogundodu	So.
CB 4	Gary Green	Jr.
CB 20	Anthony Webb	So.
SS 36	Tang Bacheyie	Jr.
FS 46	Justin Thornton	So.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos. No.	Name	Class
K 39	Scott Webb	Sr.
P 15	Kyle Tucker	Sr.
KR 13	Marcus Herford	Jr.
PR 13	Marcus Herford	Jr.

Returning Starters In Bold

2007 KANSAS ROSTER

Quarterbacks		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	Defensive Linemen		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
17	Lawrence, Tyler	QB	6'3"	205	Fr.	Shawnee, KS	90	Alsbaugh, Richard	DE	6'3"	225	Jr.	Overland Park, KS
10	Meier, Kerry	QB	6'3"	215	So.	Pittsburg, KS	94	Blakesley, Caleb	DT	6'5"	285	So.	Ottawa, KS
5	Reesing, Todd	QB	5'11"	190	So.	Austin, TX	81	Brorsen, Russell	DE	6'4"	238	Jr.	Stillwater, OK
Running Backs							99	Greene, Jamal	DT	6'4"	265	Fr.	Kansas City, KS
							72	Haselhorst, Todd	DT	6'4"	300	Jr.	Olathe, KS
28	Archer, Sam	FB	6'1"	220	So.	McPherson, KS	87	Larson, John	DE	6'3"	245	Jr.	Shawnee Mission, KS
34	Bean, Donte	RB	5'9"	180	Fr.	Rowlett, TX	93	McClinton, James	DT	6'1"	283	Sr.	Garland, TX
33	Jackson, Devin	FB	5'9"	225	Jr.	Lenexa, KS	47	Onyegbule, Maxwell	DE	6'4"	230	Fr.	Arlington, TX
35	McAnderson, Brandon	RB	6'0"	235	Sr.	Lawrence, KS	71	Templin, Luke	DL	6'2"	240	So.	Andover, KS
1	Sharp, Jake	RB	5'10"	190	So.	Salina, KS	95	Thompson, Jason	DE	6'6"	245	So.	Dallas, TX
Receivers							84	Wheeler, Jeff	DE	6'7"	260	So.	Houston, TX
							Linebackers						
47	Bowie, Matt	WR	5'10"	175	Fr.	Wichita, KS	49	Dudley, Drew	LB	6'2"	225	Fr.	College Station, TX
37	Brown, Micah	WR	6'0"	178	So.	Kearney, NE	16	Duncan, Brandon	LB	6'1"	210	So.	Garland, TX
38	Brown, Raymond	WR	6'3"	200	Jr.	St. Louis, MO	61	Handshy, Ian	LB	6'1"	235	So.	Lawrence, KS
87	Dedeaux, Bradley	TE	6'3"	250	Fr.	Midwest City, OK	12	Holt, James	OLB	6'3"	200	Jr.	Altus, OK
88	Fields, Dexton	WR	6'0"	200	Jr.	Dallas, TX	51	Lewis, Dakota	LB	6'1"	206	Fr.	Sulphur, OK
85	Fine, Derek	TE	6'3"	245	Sr.	Sallisaw, OK	8	Mortensen, Joe	MLB	6'1"	245	Jr.	Concord, CA
82	Foster, Jeff	WR	6'2"	195	Sr.	Cedar Rapids, IA	52	Murray, Jamal	LB	5'10"	220	Fr.	Wichita, KS
86	Henry, Marcus	WR	6'4"	200	Sr.	Lawton, OK	44	Ogundodu, Olaitan	OLB	6'0"	200	So.	Mesquite, TX
13	Herford, Marcus	WR	6'3"	210	Jr.	DeSoto, TX	40	Rivera, Mike	MLB	6'3"	250	Jr.	Shawnee Mission, KS
89	Ingram, Tertavian	WR	6'0"	185	Fr.	Tampa, FL	58	Schermer, Jake	OLB	6'2"	215	So.	Nixa, MO
83	Jones, Marc	TE	6'4"	241	Sr.	Norfolk, VA	41	Wright, Arist	OLB	6'0"	210	So.	Houston, TX
95	Matte, Matthew	TE	6'2"	230	So.	Albuquerque, NM	53	Zeleznak, Matt	LB	6'0"	215	Jr.	Topeka, KS
9	Pendleton, Raimond	WR	5'10"	180	So.	Garland, TX	Defensive Backs						
19	Petty, Reece	WR	6'1"	185	Fr.	Liberal, KS							
22	Quigley, Angus	WR	6'2"	210	So.	Cleburne, TX	36	Bacheyie, Tang	SS	6'1"	205	Jr.	Windsor, ON
18	Rambo, Xavier	WR	6'0"	185	Fr.	Dallas, TX	28	Clawson, Chris	S	5'10"	180	Fr.	Montgomery, TX
49	Spears, Derek	TE	6'3"	215	Jr.	Osborne, KS	4	Green, Gary	CB	5'9"	175	Jr.	San Antonio, TX
Offensive Linemen							24	Harper, Kendrick	CB	5'11"	185	Jr.	Hartwell, GA
75	Anderson, Marcus	OL	6'4"	285	Sr.	Oakland, CA	27	Muhammed, Sadiq	S	6'0"	195	Sr.	Kansas City, MO
67	Arceo, Rameses	G	6'4"	295	Jr.	Whittier, CA	45	Redwine, Stanley	CB	5'10"	175	Jr.	Lawrence, KS
50	Cantrell, Ryan	C	6'3"	285	Jr.	Sugar Land, TX	7	Resby, Patrick	SS	6'2"	195	Jr.	Humble, TX
59	Capra, Sal	OL	6'3"	245	Fr.	Kansas City, MO	19	Seymour, Brian	S	6'1"	190	Sr.	Lawrence, KS
78	Collins, Anthony	T	6'6"	300	Jr.	Beaumont, TX	26	Strozier, Phillip	DB	6'0"	190	Fr.	Kansas City, MO
70	Darton, Matt	G	6'6"	305	Jr.	San Diego, CA	25	Stuckey, Darrell	FS	6'1"	202	So.	Kansas City, KS
79	Hartley, Chet	G	6'4"	315	Jr.	Kingman, KS	3	Talib, Aqib	CB	6'2"	180	Jr.	Richardson, TX
55	Marshall, John	C	6'3"	280	Fr.	New Pleasant, TX	46	Thornton, Justin	FS	6'1"	195	So.	St. Joseph, MO
66	Mayes, Adrian	G	6'3"	300	Jr.	Manhattan, KS	20	Webb, Anthony	CB	6'0"	180	So.	Glenn Heights, TX
73	Pessetto, Justin	OL	6'3"	285	Fr.	Shawnee, KS	Specialists						
65	Rodriguez, Cesar	T	6'7"	286	Sr.	La Puente, CA							
60	Rodriguez, Jose	T	6'6"	255	So.	La Puente, CA	56	Anderson, Kayl	LS	6'2"	225	So.	Tulsa, OK
62	Smith, Alex	OL	6'0"	275	Fr.	Basehor, KS	43	Branstetter, Jacob	K	5'10"	175	Fr.	Lawton, OK
68	Wilson, Carl	OL	6'4"	275	Fr.	Redlands, CA	22	Davis, Kyle	P	5'10"	178	So.	Overland Park, KS
63	Wolfe, Ian	T	6'5"	280	Fr.	Fort Collins, CO	15	Tucker, Kyle	P	6'2"	205	Sr.	Katy, TX
							39	Webb, Scott	K	5'11"	180	Sr.	Tulsa, OK

Head Coach: Mark Mangino • Record at School: 25-35 (5 years) • Career Record: 25-35 (5 years)

Offensive Coordinator: Ed Warinner • Defensive Coordinator: Bill Young • Lawrence, Kan. • Memorial Stadium (50,071)

2006 INDIVIDUAL STATS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.
Kerry Meier	184	104	1,193	13	10
Adam Barmann	150	82	911	3	6
Todd Reesing	14	24	204	3	3

Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Jon Cornish	250	1,457	5.8	8
Kerry Meier	99	344	3.5	5

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Dexton Fields	45	455	10.1	5
Brian Murph	43	467	10.9	3
Derek Fine	28	355	12.7	5
Marcus Henry	25	316	12.6	3

Kicking: Scott Webb, 13-18 FGs, 37-39 XPs, 76 points

Tackles: Mike Rivera, 90; Two players with 82

Sacks: James McClinton, 6.0

Interceptions: Aqib Talib, 6

Returning Players in Bold



OUTSIDE THE HUDDLE

New home Kansas has broken ground on a new, \$31 million facility that will serve as headquarters for KU's football program. The Anderson Family Football Complex will be built adjacent to Memorial Stadium. The building will include coaches offices, academic areas, a weight room, locker rooms, an audio-visual room, meeting rooms, a cardio room, a hydrotherapy room and a nutrition area.

Mr. Ed The Jayhawks hired former Illinois assistant Ed Warinner to replace Nick Quartaro as offensive coordinator. Warinner was the run-game coordinator for an Illinois squad that led the Big Ten in rushing in 2006 while ranking 10th nationally. This is Warinner's second stint at KU, where he served as offensive line coach from 2003-04.

He's back After battling injuries throughout his career, it appears Gary Green will finally see some playing time this fall. The son of the former Kansas City Chiefs great has switched from tailback to cornerback, where he was listed as a backup at the end of spring drills.

Bowl hungry Considering he led the country in passes defended and the Big 12 in interceptions last season, it was hardly surprising when rumors began swirling that cornerback Aqib Talib might leave school early and enter the NFL Draft. Talib, though, said he never considered it. "We didn't even go to a bowl game," says Talib, now a junior. "I'd have probably been a seventh-round pick. When I leave I want it to be on a high note."

Later Two players who were viewed as potential starters — linebacker Brandon Duncan and defensive end Jason Thompson — missed spring drills and are not expected to return to the team.

2006 RESULTS

Record: 6-6 (3-5 Big 12)

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Att.
S. 2	Northwestern State	W	49-18	55,614
S. 9	UL Monroe	W	21-19	45,221
S. 15	at Toledo	(ot) L	31-37	22,118
S. 23	South Florida	W	13-7	40,933
S. 30	at Nebraska	(ot) L	32-39	85,069
O. 7	Texas A&M	L	18-21	46,445
O. 14	Oklahoma State	L	32-42	41,203
O. 21	at Baylor	L	35-36	36,125
O. 28	Colorado	W	20-15	39,313
N. 4	at Iowa State	W	41-10	40,272
N. 18	Kansas State	W	39-20	51,821
N. 25	at Missouri	L	17-42	55,614

Tim Umphery

Dexton Fields

2007 RECRUITING

Kansas' primary concern was secondary — as in the defensive secondary, where the Jayhawks ranked last in the country against the pass in 2006. KU delved into the junior college ranks for immediate help and surfaced with cornerback Kendrick Harper and safety Patrick Resby. Both enrolled in January and are projected starters. The long-term difference-maker, though, could be high school phenom Ryan Murphy, the highest-rated player in KU's 2007 class. Kansas also improved an offensive line that lost three starters by signing center Jeremiah Hatch along with Jeff Spikes and juco transfer Chet Hartley. Spikes is a sleeper who committed less than a week before Signing Day after receiving interest from Pittsburgh and Illinois. "When you meet (Spikes) in person ... he's as impressive of an offensive lineman as we've recruited here, period," Kansas coach Mark Mangino says. Linebacker Justin Springer reneged on his commitment to Arizona State to sign with KU. The Jayhawks landed another Texas standout in Dezmon Briscoe, a receiver from Class 4A state champion Cedar Hill. "It means a lot because that's a high-profile team," Mangino says. "To be able to get one of their better players, one of their top-notch guys, means a lot about the credibility that Kansas has in Texas."

Isiah Barfield	CB	6'0"	175	Haven, KS
Ranked No. 14 prospect in Kansas by Rivals.com. Scored 12 TDs on offense and had two INTs on defense as a senior. Also ran track.				
Carmon Boyd-Anderson	RB	6'1"	200	Jacksonville, TX
Ranked No. 33 running back in nation and No. 77 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com. Rushed for 1,674 yards and 18 TDs as a senior.				
Dezmon Briscoe	WR	6'3"	200	Dallas, TX
Recorded 37 catches for 708 yards and 11 TDs as a senior. Finished HS career with 23-4 record and state championship in '06.				
Anthony Davis	CB	6'0"	192	Tulsa, OK
Ranked No. 15 prospect in Oklahoma and No. 53 cornerback in country by Rivals.com. Seven INTs, two fumble recoveries in '06; state-leading 12 INTs in '05.				
Patrick Dorsey	DT	6'0"	267	Houston, TX
Named All-Greater Houston Area and Houston Touchdown Club nominee as a senior.				
Drew Dudley	LB	6'2"	225	College Station, TX
Ranked No. 19 inside linebacker in country by ESPN.com. Named first-team All-Cen Tex District and Defensive MVP as a senior.				
Steven Foster	RB	6'2"	235	Sedgwick, KS
Ranked No. 4 fullback in the nation by ESPN.com. Rushed for 1,769 yards and 22 TDs on offense; 125 tackles, one sack and one INT on defense as a senior.				
Kendrick Harper	CB	5'11"	185	Hartwell, GA
A second-team All-Jayhawk Conference pick as a sophomore at Butler County (Kan.) Community College.				

RECRUITING BREAKDOWN

By Position	By State
Defensive Backs	9
Running Backs	5
Wide Receivers	5
Offensive Linemen	2
Defensive Ends	1
Linebackers	1
Defensive Tackles	1
Kickers	1
Quarterbacks	1

Chris Harris	CB	6'0"	180	Bixby, OK
Recorded 61 tackles and four INTs on defense; 42 catches for 839 yards as a senior. Named District Player of the Year in '06.				
Chet Hartley	G	6'4"	315	Kingman, KS
A teammate of Kendrick Harper at Butler County (Kan.) Community College. Also earned second-team All-Jayhawk Conference honors.				
Jeremiah Hatch	C	6'3"	311	Dallas, TX
Ranked No. 11 center in the country by Scout.com and No. 40 prospect in Dallas Area by the <i>Dallas Morning News</i> .				
Stephen Hoge	K	6'4"	210	Oklahoma City, OK
Converted 76-of-80 PAT and 25-of-30 FG attempts during HS career; 16-of-16 PAT and 12-of-16 FG attempts as a senior. Father, John, was a kicker at Oklahoma.				
Richard Johnson Jr.	DE	6'4"	260	Jefferson City, MO
Had 68 tackles and five sacks as a senior. Cousin, Eric Galbreath, played at Kansas from 1993-96 and cousin, Tony Galbreath, played in NFL from 1976-87.				

SPOTLIGHT ON...CARMON BOYD-ANDERSON

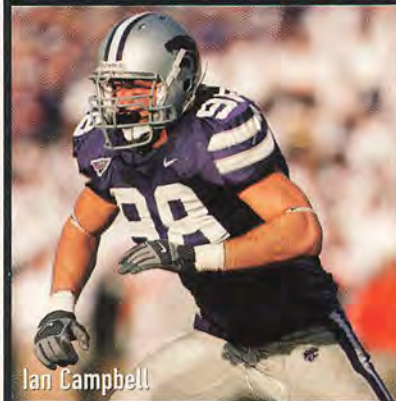
Running Back • 6'1" • 200 • Jacksonville, TX

Boyd-Anderson did his research. Of all the Division I-A programs that offered him a scholarship, none provided an opportunity quite like Kansas. "Oh yeah, he's a smart guy," Mark Mangino says. "I'm sure he looked at our situation." The graduation of Big 12 rushing leader Jon Cornish has left the Jayhawks' running back position up for grabs. Sophomore Jake Sharp and senior Brandon McAnderson are the leading candidates to get most of the carries, but Boyd-Anderson will have his opportunity, too. "The coaches have told me I can come in and play early if I work hard," he says. Boyd-Anderson certainly did that at Jacksonville, where he rushed for 1,674 yards as a senior. Iowa, Oklahoma State and Kansas State all made scholarship offers to the 6'1", 200-pounder, but Boyd-Anderson never wavered after pledging to the Jayhawks. "We like him a lot," Mangino says. "He's thick with power. He can make people miss. He can pull away from you in a short area. I wouldn't call his speed blazing, but it's very, very good."

Jake Laptad	DE	6'4"	223	Tulsa, OK
Named first-team All-Metro Area by <i>Tulsa World</i> . Recorded 81 tackles and 12.5 sacks on defense; eight receptions for 89 yards and one TD on offense in '06.				
Rell Lewis	WR	5'10"	185	Muskogee, OK
Named District Offensive MVP and All-State by <i>Tulsa World</i> and the OCA as a senior.				
Brian Murphy	RB	5'8"	165	Lawrence, KS
Ranked No. 16 prospect in Kansas by Rivals.com. Rushed for 1,095 yards and 17 TDs as a senior; 1,035 yards and 11 TDs as a junior. Averaged 30.5 yards per punt return with one TD in '05. Twin brother, Ryan, also a member of KU's recruiting class.				
Ryan Murphy	WR	5'11"	180	Lawrence, KS
Ranked No. 3 prospect in Kansas and No. 19 cornerback in the country by Rivals.com. Passed for 1,863 yards; rushed for 1,121 yards; scored 33 total TDs in '06. Twin brother, Brian, also a member of KU's recruiting class.				
Patrick Resby	S	6'2"	195	Humble, TX
Ranked among the top 50 junior college defensive backs by Rivals.com.				
Jeff Spikes	T	6'7"	312	Painesville, OH
Ranked No. 7 offensive lineman in Ohio by Rivals.com.				
Justin Springer	LB	6'3"	220	Los Fresnos, TX
Ranked No. 39 inside linebacker in the country by Rivals.com. Recorded 140 tackles, seven sacks, five forced fumbles, three INTs and two fumble recoveries as a senior. Named All-Metro Defensive Player of the Year in '06.				
A.J. Steward	QB	6'3"	214	St. Louis, MO
Ranked No. 22 prospect in Missouri by Rivals.com. Threw for 1,577 yards and 22 TDs and rushed for 1,087 yards and 11 TDs as a senior.				
Johnathan Wilson	WR	6'3"	185	Houston, TX
Registered 39 catches for 788 yards and 12 TDs as a senior.				

A QUICK LOOK AT THE WILDCATS

It won't take long to learn what K-State is all about. The Wildcats open 2007 at Auburn, and their hopes rest on the broad shoulders of sophomore quarterback **Josh Freeman**. Second-year coach **Ron Prince** has invested a lot in the promising signal-caller, and he proved to be a gem at times. The offensive line has to improve in order for Freeman to get the job done consistently. That wasn't the case often enough for a team that ranked 85th in total offense and dead last in the Big 12 in time of possession. His favorite target will be **Jordy Nelson**, K-State's big playmaker. Ultimately, the defense could determine how this team fares. There are big changes, including a new coordinator in **Tim Tibesar**, who was previously in charge of special teams. He will showcase a new look in the 3-4 defense, which Prince says will give the Wildcats more leverage against spread offenses. Part of that plan could be risky, because he will play All-Big 12 choice **Ian Campbell** quite a bit at linebacker rather than end, where he tied a school record for sacks in a season. Another question mark is the placekicking game. The Wildcats start anew there, and that could play a huge role in their bowl chances.



Ian Campbell

2007 SCHEDULE

S. 1	at Auburn	L
S. 8	San Jose State	W
S. 15	Missouri State	W
S. 29	at Texas	L
O. 6	Kansas	W
O. 13	Colorado	W
O. 20	at Oklahoma State	L
O. 27	Baylor	W
N. 3	at Iowa State	W
N. 10	at Nebraska	L
N. 17	Missouri	L
N. 24	at Fresno State	W

*Games in **bold** represent games crucial to the season.
W or L indicates a projected win or loss

The theme for Kansas State football, "The Power of One," was formed on the frozen training ground of United States soldiers. In January, the Wildcats visited Fort Riley, an Army base located 20 minutes from the campus in Manhattan, Kan. The players worked out with members of the First Battalion, 28th Infantry, a group of 79 strong who comprise a unit nicknamed the "Black Lions." Players had to carry 45-pound back packs, run sprints, lug trailer tires, climb ropes, things like that. This, however, was more than just a bonding experience. It was meant to build a tight unit where only the strong survive.

Sure, K-State coach Ron Prince liked that his Wildcats finished 7-6 in 2006 and made it to a bowl game for the first time since 2003 (a 37-10 loss to Rutgers in the Texas Bowl). But that is not good enough. He demands more toughness, and he hopes his players got a taste of what tough men are all about at Fort Riley.

"We're really trying to understand that we have one team. While we tactically have an offense, a defense and special teams, we have one team," Prince says. "We're playing for something bigger than ourselves. It's for all those people for whom K-State means so much, and we have an obligation to do things first-class and to the best of our ability. These young men (in the Army) taught us a little something about that."

Less than a month after K-State spent its time at Fort Riley, the Black Lions were deployed to Iraq. The Wildcats, meanwhile, went about their business. Not necessarily the same business, though. Prince is changing the base defense to a 3-4, and the person who could be affected the most is junior defensive end **Ian Campbell**, an All-Big 12 selection. He is working a lot at outside linebacker.

On offense, sophomore quarterback **Josh Freeman** hopes to build on a decent first season in which he started the last eight games, his signature performance coming in the upset of then-No. 4 Texas.

As he prepares for the ESPN season-opener at Auburn, on Sept. 1, Freeman admits he'll not soon forget the Fort Riley experience, and what it could possibly mean to K-State's chances this season. "They were preparing to go to war, where they eventually could die," Freeman says. "We're playing a game. I think, though, it will pull us together. I don't expect us to have any quit in this team. Not at all."

Quarterbacks Freeman and redshirt freshman **Carson Coffman** are the only two scholarship signal-callers, but it is Freeman at the helm. Freeman, at 6'6", is weighing-in around 255 pounds these days. No wonder Prince is making physical comparisons to former LSU standout and No. 1 overall draft pick

JaMarcus Russell. One of only two true freshmen to lead his team to a bowl game in 2006, Freeman threw for 1,780 yards and six touchdowns. But it's the 15 interceptions that he needs to reduce. Freeman, who threw for 269 yards and three touchdowns against Texas, is up for the challenge. "I'm stronger and I'm faster. I have to get better for us to be better," Freeman says. Meanwhile, Coffman, who is the son of former K-State standout tight end **Paul Coffman** and brother of Missouri star tight end **Chase Coffman**, has the pedigree. No doubt he can win. Carson Coffman went 26-0 in his two seasons as a starter at Raymore-Peculiar High School in Missouri. He underwent rotator cuff surgery on his throwing shoulder a year ago but has progressed nicely in a comeback.

NUMBERS GAME**27:31**

Time of possession was a problem for the Wildcats, who ranked last in the Big 12 and 114th in

the nation at 27:31 per game. The offensive line, and a true freshman quarterback, had as much to do with the lack of ball control as anything.

Running Backs Don't be surprised if senior **James Johnson** finally lives up to the hype. Johnson, who transferred to K-State last season from **Blinn (Texas) College**, got off to a slow start, somewhat disappointing since he was a first-team junior college All-American as a freshman. The 5'11", 200-pounder did start the final five games, and it looks like he's picked up where he left off as he battles tiny sophomore **Leon Patton** (5'7", 184) for the starting spot. Johnson, who was a workout warrior in the offseason, has impressed Prince not only with his ability to run the ball but to catch it as well. Patton, though, is a serious contender for playing time. He set the school record for freshman rushing yards with 609 and has a speed advantage over Johnson. The fullback likely will be **John McCordle**, also a notable figure on special teams.

Receivers A healthy **Jordy Nelson** could make all the difference for the Wildcats. Nelson was slowed by injuries last season and was so upset by it that he quit talking to the media the last five games. Nelson shined as a sophomore when he led K-State with 45 receptions and 669 yards. His numbers slipped to 39 catches for 547 in 2006, still not too bad. Somebody to watch in this unit is **Daniel Gonzalez**. He played sparingly last season but made giant strides in the spring.



Kansas State QB
Josh Freeman

"He's become a real threat in the red zone," Prince says. Perhaps the most athletic wideout is junior Cedric Wilson, who caught a halfback pass for a TD against Texas, while Ernie Pierce, a newcomer from Santa Barbara (Calif.) City College, and sophomore Tony Purvis should challenge for playing time as well. Tight ends are important in Prince's offense, and several candidates are in the hunt, including sophomore Jeron Mastrud, junior Brett Alstatt, and seniors Rashaad Norwood and Michael Pooschke.

Offensive Linemen It wouldn't be hard to argue that this has been the weak link since 2004. No wonder K-State signed seven linemen, and two of them could start — tackles Alesana Alesana and Ben Liu. The anchor among the returning linemen is junior center Jordan Bedore, who had Prince raving in the spring. It also might be time for the tallest Wildcat, Logan Robinson (6'8", 338), to make an impact. He started the final four games, perhaps a sign that he finally is ready to put that size to good use at one of the guard spots.

RISING STAR

Junior safety **Gary Chandler** never gave up on K-State — and K-State never gave up on him. Issues with academics preempted Chandler's arrival. He went to Coffeyville (Kan.) Community College, where one service rated him the No. 5 player in the country. "I'm where I always wanted to be," Chandler says.

Defensive Linemen It starts with Campbell, who tied the school single season record for sacks with 11.5. Campbell, though, will see action at outside linebacker in the 3-4, as will sophomore Eric Childs. If there is a prime candidate to benefit from Campbell's time off the line, it could be senior end Rob Jackson, a solid pass rusher who had two sacks against Texas. Fire-plug nose tackle Alphonso Moran showed his stuff with three tackles for a loss against Nebraska. Newcomer Michael Abana also has a shot to contribute immediately.

Linebackers All eyes will be on transfer Chris Patterson to bolster a unit that has dropped off in recent years. He comes in as one of the top 25 junior college players in the country. Patterson will be expected to have an instant impact. The inside spot could go to junior Reggie Walker, who isn't big (6'0", 233) but packs a wallop. Campbell will see significant time alongside Walker. Seniors Justin Roland and Marcus Perry along with redshirt freshman Davyon McGhee and junior Antwon Moore all should provide depth.

Defensive Backs The heart and soul is senior safety Marcus Watts, who missed the final four games of the regular season last year because of injury. He also is a key member on special teams. One of the Wildcats' most heralded newcomers is safety Gary Chandler, ranked among the top 10 junior college players by at least one recruiting service. Chandler enrolled in January, so he has a head start on the system. The cornerback spots will come down to sophomore Joshua Moore and seniors Bryan Baldwin and Justin McKinney.

Specialists Lots of changes here with the departure of star returner Yamon Figs. There'll be a new kicker, and the frontrunner is Brooks Rossman, a transfer from Ohio University. The kick return chores could be handled by a committee. Patton returned a kickoff 95 yards for a TD against Oklahoma State, and McKinney has served in that position. Wilson has a chance at returning punts.

SCOUTING THE WILDCATS

Opposing coaches size up Kansas State: "Kansas State really surprised some people. I don't think anyone would've guessed that they'd have been in a bowl. They beat Texas. Their quarterback (Josh Freeman) is good. And that little tailback (Leon Patton) is excellent. He's got tremendous balance. They're a very young football team. (Freeman) is a talented guy. He's obviously got the size and the strong arm you're looking for, but he also played with a lot of confidence and poise toward the end. To play like that as a freshman is pretty impressive. ... I don't know if they're recruiting that well. (In Prince's) first year they went out and offered a bunch of players that had people thinking, 'Wow. What are they doing?' The next year I'm sure they learned a little bit from that. Anytime you're a new staff you struggle in recruiting. ... I think the North Division is wide open, and Kansas State, based on the way they closed last season, deserves to be mentioned in teams to watch as potential contenders. The real question is: How much improvement can they make along the offensive line? They haven't been real good up front recently."



Marcus Watts

KEY WILDCATS

Jordan Bedore, C

Making big strides, and the key to a line that simply has to perform better.

Ian Campbell, DE/LB

First-team All-Big 12; tied school single-season record with 11.5 sacks.

Josh Freeman, QB

The franchise. If he continues to improve, K-State always has a chance.

Jordy Nelson, WR

He's healthy again, and no doubt the top threat when the Wildcats put it in the air.

Marcus Watts, DB

Safety and special teams standout who has had trouble staying injury-free.

KEY LOSSES

Brandon Archer, LB

He led the team in total tackles and was the glue on defense.

Quintin Echols, DT

Leader provided the beef up front.

Yamon Figs, WR

Speedy wide receiver and returner.

Jermaine Moreira, WR

Injuries ruined his senior season, but still had 419 receiving yards.

Jeff Snodgrass, K

His career five field goals of 50 yards or more tied Martin Gramatica.

PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE (7)

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
WR	27	Jordy Nelson	Sr.
WR	83	Daniel Gonzalez	Sr.
LT	78	Alesana Alesana	Jr.
LG	71	Derek Meyer	So.
C	79	Jordan Bedore	Jr.
RG		Eldridge Sims	Jr.
RT		Ben Liu	Jr.
TE	82	Michael Pooschke	Sr.
TE	85	Jeron Mastrud	So.
QB	1	Josh Freeman	So.
RB	8	James Johnson	Sr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
WR	88	Cedric Wilson	Jr.
WR		Ernie Pierce	Jr.
LT	64	Nick Stringer	So.
LG	69	Caleb Handy	Jr.
C	54	Trevor Viers	So.
RG	65	Logan Robinson	Sr.
RT	76	Brock Unruh	So.
TE	89	Rashaad Norwood	Sr.
TE	80	Brett Alstatt	Jr.
QB	14	Carson Coffman	Fr.
RB	9	Leon Patton	So.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE (6)

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
DE	95	Rob Jackson	Sr.
NT	50	Alphonso Moran	Jr.
DE	96	Moses Manu	Sr.
LB	98	Ian Campbell	Jr.
LB	53	Reggie Walker	Jr.
LB		Chris Patterson	Jr.
LB	90	Eric Childs	So.
CB	3	Bryan Baldwin	Sr.
CB	22	Justin McKinney	Sr.
SS	2	Marcus Watts	Sr.
FS	21	Gary Chandler	Jr.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
DE	92	Brandon Balkcom	Jr.
NT		Michael Abana	Jr.
DE	48	Pete Yemm	Jr.
LB	43	Antwon Moore	Jr.
LB	51	Justin Roland	Sr.
LB	37	Marcus Perry	Sr.
LB	44	Davyon McGhee	Fr.
CB	6	Byron Garvin	Sr.
CB	4	Joshua Moore	So.
SS	15	Kevin Hollis	So.
FS	36	Andrew Erker	Jr.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
K	16	Brooks Rossman	Jr.
P	17	Tim Reyer	Sr.
KR	9	Leon Patton	So.
PR	88	Cedric Wilson	Jr.

Returning Starters In Bold

2007 KANSAS STATE ROSTER

Quarterbacks		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	Linebackers		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
14	Coffman, Carson	QB	6'2"	200	Fr.	Peculiar, MO	58	Bamberger, Chris	LB	6'1"	218	Jr.	Jetmore, KS
1	Freeman, Josh	QB	6'6"	255	So.	Kansas City, MO	42	Diehl, Ross	LB	6'2"	220	So.	Castle Rock, CO
Running Backs		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	33	Gaskins, Greg	LB	6'0"	219	Sr.	Manhattan, KS
36	Feldt, Jake	RB	5'10"	205	Fr.	Dallas, TX	39	Houlik, John	LB	5'10"	212	So.	Wichita, KS
8	Johnson, James	RB	5'11"	200	Sr.	Port Arthur, TX	40	Litton, Taner	LB	6'0"	211	So.	Beloit, KS
28	McCardle, John	RB	5'8"	200	Jr.	Omaha, NE	41	Mathias, Steve	LB	6'0"	222	Sr.	Partridge, KS
9	Patton, Leon	RB	5'7"	184	So.	Cedar Hill, TX	44	McGhee, Davyon	LB	5'10"	228	Fr.	Houston, TX
26	Petrie, Terry	RB	5'8"	183	Sr.	Norton, KS	43	Moore, Antwon	LB	5'10"	209	Jr.	Ponca City, OK
Receivers		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	37	Perry, Marcus	LB	6'1"	225	Sr.	Leawood, KS
80	Alstatt, Brett	TE	6'4"	229	Jr.	Hays, KS	46	Reed, Jack	LB	6'1"	208	So.	Gloucester, MA
25	Coleman, Toney	WR	6'1"	193	Sr.	Arlington, TX	51	Roland, Justin	LB	6'0"	245	Sr.	Ponca City, OK
47	Gantz, Gabe	TE	6'4"	240	Fr.	Perry, KS	57	Rosel, MacKenzie	LB	6'1"	222	So.	Liberal, KS
83	Gonzalez, Daniel	WR	6'3"	216	Sr.	Augusta, KS	53	Walker, Reggie	LB	6'0"	233	Jr.	Sacramento, CA
24	Harrison, Stephen	WR	5'11"	167	Fr.	Dallas, TX	54	Warren, Cory	LB	6'1"	205	Fr.	Uniontown, KS
20	Hayes, Matt	WR	6'1"	185	Jr.	Collinsville, IL	Defensive Backs		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
22	James, Jeremy	WR	5'7"	178	So.	Kansas City, MO	35	Alexander, Heath	DB	6'0"	186	Jr.	Satanta, KS
85	Mastrud, Jeron	TE	6'6"	255	So.	Beaverton, OR	3	Baldwin, Bryan	CB	5'10"	190	Sr.	St. Louis, MO
27	Nelson, Jordy	WR	6'2"	213	Sr.	Riley, KS	31	Bernbeck, Brice	DB	5'11"	181	So.	Lakin, KS
89	Norwood, Rashaad	TE	6'3"	229	Sr.	Kansas City, KS	30	Carney, Chris	DB	6'1"	175	So.	Denver, CO
82	Pooschke, Michael	TE	6'3"	245	Sr.	Lawton, OK	21	Chandler, Gary	FS	5'11"	186	Jr.	Wichita, KS
31	Purvis, Tony	WR	5'11"	159	So.	McCook, NE	23	Cheatham, Ray	DB	6'0"	185	Jr.	El Dorado, AR
18	Schultz, Corey	WR	6'3"	180	Jr.	Quenemo, KS	36	Erker, Andrew	FS	6'0"	195	Jr.	Olathe, KS
88	Wilson, Cedric	WR	6'1"	190	Jr.	Fort Pierce, FL	25	Evans, Scott	DB	5'10"	191	So.	Andover, KS
12	Wykes, Matt	WR	6'3"	213	Jr.	Conway Springs, KS	6	Garvin, Byron	CB	5'10"	180	Sr.	Miramar, FL
Offensive Linemen		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	38	Henricks, Jordan	DB	6'0"	181	So.	Manhattan, KS
78	Alesana, Alesana	T	6'6"	295	Jr.	Malie, W. Samoa	20	Herndon, Courtney	DB	5'11"	201	So.	Dallas, TX
79	Bedore, Jordan	C	6'3"	302	Jr.	Goodland, KS	15	Hollis, Kevin	SS	5'11"	190	So.	Gilmer, TX
72	Hafferty, John	OL	6'2"	296	Sr.	Alpharetta, GA	29	Johnson, Otis	DB	5'11"	185	So.	Houston, TX
69	Handy, Caleb	G	6'1"	313	Jr.	Conway Springs, KS	22	McKinney, Justin	CB	5'9"	185	Sr.	Sanford, FL
61	Lucas, Zach	OL	6'2"	270	Jr.	Sublette, KS	4	Moore, Joshua	CB	5'10"	168	So.	Pompano Beach, FL
67	Mayfield, Kenneth	OL	6'4"	300	Fr.	Randallstown, MD	13	Stryker, Adrian	DB	6'1"	188	So.	Valley Heights, KS
71	Meyer, Derek	G	6'6"	301	So.	Campbell, NE	2	Watts, Marcus	SS	6'1"	191	Sr.	Hays, KS
65	Robinson, Logan	G	6'8"	338	Sr.	Agra, KS	Specialists		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
68	Rooker, Brad	OL	6'6"	291	Jr.	Omaha, NE	21	Brokenicky, Cole	P	5'10"	197	Sr.	Manhattan, KS
73	Spexarth, Gerard	OL	6'6"	312	Jr.	Colwich, KS	14	Fulhage, D.J.	P	5'10"	172	Fr.	Beloit, KS
64	Stringer, Nick	T	6'6"	271	So.	Topeka, KS	15	Gay, Nick	K	6'1"	185	So.	Lenexa, KS
76	Unruh, Brock	T	6'5"	301	So.	Corpus Christi, TX	60	Kolich, Sean	LS	6'1"	216	Fr.	Olathe, KS
54	Viers, Trevor	C	6'4"	259	So.	Windom, KS	18	Parker, Jared	K	5'11"	197	Jr.	Ankeny, IA
Defensive Linemen		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	17	Reyer, Tim	P	5'11"	208	Sr.	Wamego, KS
92	Balkcom, Brandon	DE	6'0"	278	Jr.	Hazel Crest, IL	16	Rossman, Brooks	K	6'1"	175	Jr.	San Diego, CA
98	Campbell, Ian	DE/LB	6'5"	232	Jr.	Cimarron, KS	26	Schwerdt, Tim	K	5'8"	174	Sr.	Tecumseh, KS
90	Childs, Eric	DE/LB	6'3"	230	So.	Arlington, TX	55	Smith, Caleb	LS	6'2"	220	So.	Garden City, KS
99	Cline, Steven	DT	6'1"	291	Sr.	Palm Bch. Gardens, FL							
91	Cox, Clayton	DE	6'3"	233	Sr.	Weskan, KS							
93	Crews, Gabriel	DT	6'2"	310	Fr.	Jonesboro, GA							
55	Faustin, Vlad	DT	6'2"	244	Jr.	Miami, FL							
95	Jackson, Rob	DE	6'3"	265	Sr.	West Haven, CT							
59	Kendall, Zach	DT	6'4"	280	Fr.	Peculiar, MO							
96	Manu, Moses	DE	6'2"	258	Sr.	Inglewood, CA							
50	Moran, Alphonso	NT	6'0"	294	Jr.	Delray Beach, FL							
48	Yemm, Pete	DE	6'3"	238	Jr.	Overland Park, KS							

Head Coach: Ron Prince • Record at School: 7-6 (1 year) • Career Record: 7-6 (1 year)

Offensive Coordinator: James Franklin • Defensive Coordinator: Tim Tibesar • Manhattan, Kan. • Bill Snyder Family Stadium (50,000)

2006 INDIVIDUAL STATS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.
Josh Freeman	270	140	1,780	6	15
Dylan Meier	141	72	775	3	4

Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Leon Patton	108	609	5.6	6
James Johnson	98	403	4.1	2
Thomas Clayton	67	322	4.8	3

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Jordy Nelson	39	547	14.0	1
Rashaad Norwood	36	358	9.9	0
Yamon Figurs	28	418	14.9	3

Kicking: Jeff Snodgrass, 17-24 FGs, 32-32 XPs, 83 points

Tackles: Brandon Archer, 106; Zach Diles 99

Sacks: Ian Campbell, 11.5

Interceptions: Marcus Watts, 3

Returning Players in Bold



OUTSIDE THE HUDDLE

Encore for Prince Not a bad start to the Ron Prince era. He led Kansas State to a bowl in his first season as coach. Prince, though, isn't living off that glory. "I'm no Bobby Bowden, for sure. It's my second year, and I've got a lot to learn still," Prince says. "I'm anxious to get on the field and do a better job."

Bring it on Redshirt freshman quarterback Carson Coffman isn't conceding the starting spot to Josh Freeman, even if it appears his chances are slim. For Coffman, 26-0 as a high school starter, no task leaves him in awe. "I just feel there is a chance, no matter what," says Coffman, whose brother Chase is a standout tight end at Missouri.

Off limits When it comes to true freshman Lamark Brown, think offense. "I told the defensive coaches he's off limits," Prince says about Brown, who will play wide receiver and even could see action out of the backfield because he was a star running back in the St. Louis area. Brown also played defensive back, but it sounds like those days are over.

For starters K-State linebacker Reggie Walker loves the idea opening Sept. 1 at Auburn. "I lit up," Walker said when he got the news. Defensive end Rob Jackson brought up a key point about the game with the Tigers. "It won't take us long to see what we're made of," Jackson says.

No sad sack He tied the school single season record for sacks last season, but that may not happen in 2007 for Ian Campbell, who could see as much action at linebacker as he will at his usual spot of defensive end. That's because K-State is going to the 3-4. "If I don't get as many sacks as I did last year, I won't be horribly disappointed," says Campbell, whose 11.5 sacks tied Nyle Wiren's mark set in 1996. "I have a feeling somebody else will do great things for us up there."

2006 RESULTS

Record: 7-6 (4-4 Big 12)

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Att.
S. 2	Illinois State	W	24-23	47,250
S. 9	Florida Atlantic	W	45-0	43,953
S. 16	Marshall	W	23-7	46,488
S. 23	Louisville	L	6-24	45,855
S. 30	at Baylor	L	3-17	30,752
O. 7	Oklahoma State	W	31-27	46,616
O. 14	Nebraska	L	3-21	50,723
O. 21	at Missouri	L	21-41	64,657
O. 28	Iowa State	W	31-10	44,729
N. 4	at Colorado	W	34-21	42,696
N. 11	Texas	W	45-42	47,933
N. 18	at Kansas	L	20-39	51,821
D. 28	#Rutgers	L	10-37	52,210
	#Texas Bowl			

Leon Patton

2007 RECRUITING

Players such as running backs Dee Bell and Justin Woods and wide receiver Deon Murphy, a junior college transfer who was clocked at 4.36 seconds in the 40, provide the speed Ron Prince seeks. And, no doubt K-State targeted offensive linemen. The Wildcats signed seven of them, which hopefully bolster a corps that stumbled early in the season but showed signs of progress late.

The key recruits there were junior college transfers Alesana Alesana, Ben Liu and Eldridge Sims. The main recruit at the skill positions on offense is Lamark Brown, a 6'3", 215-pound wide receiver from St. Louis who also was a standout running back and a four-year starter.

The most heralded recruits on the defensive side are defensive back Gary Chandler and linebacker Chris Patterson, both of whom are highly regarded and could make an immediate impact. Keep an eye on defensive tackle Xzavier Stewart, a true freshman from Chicago, who should be a perfect fit for the Wildcats' 3-4 defense because he also can play linebacker. Someone who might get a shot early is junior college transfer wide receiver Ernie Pierce, who also possesses punt and kick return skills.

Michael Abana	DT	6'7"	295	Virginia Beach, VA
Transfer from Santa Monica College. Had three sacks in '06.				
Cory Adams	C	6'4"	230	Monument, CO
Long snapper led unit that did not allow a blocked punt or kick in '05 or '06.				
Clyde Aufner	T	6'7"	260	Raymore, MO
Ranked No. 15 prospect in Missouri and No. 51 offensive tackle in nation by Rivals.com.				
Dee Bell	RB	5'9"	170	Olathe, KS
Ranked No. 13 prospect in Kansas by Rivals.com. Had 1,640 yards and 18 TDs in '06.				
Lamark Brown	ATH	6'3"	215	Hazelwood, MO
Ranked No. 4 athlete in country and No. 71 prospect in country by Rivals.com.				
Gary Chandler	S	5'11"	186	Wichita, KS
Transfer from Coffeyville College. Ranked No. 5 JUCO prospect by Rivals.com.				
Josh Cherry	K	6'1"	170	McCook, NE
Ranked No. 5 prospect in Nebraska and No. 12 kicker in nation by Rivals.com.				
Richard Evans	WR	5'10"	170	Dallas, TX
Won Class 4A District 14 track title in 200 meters. Rushed for 945 yards as a senior.				
Colten Freeze	T	6'7"	270	Liberty, MO
Ranked No. 25 prospect in Missouri by Rivals.com.				
Raphael Guidry	DE	6'4"	240	Texas City, TX
Named second-team Class 4A All-Greater Houston Area. Had 86 tackles in '06.				
Brian Harris	LB	6'4"	217	East St. Louis, IL
Had 80 tackles for East St. Louis HS, the No. 1-ranked Class 7A team in Illinois.				
Tysyn Hartman	QB	6'2"	190	Wichita, KS
Ranked No. 6 prospect in Kansas and No. 65 athlete in the nation by Rivals.com.				

RECRUITING BREAKDOWN

By Position	By State
Offensive Linemen.....7	Kansas.....7
Wide Receivers.....5	Texas.....7
Defensive Backs.....4	Missouri.....5
Linebackers.....4	Illinois.....4
Running Backs.....3	California.....3
Defensive Ends.....2	Florida.....2
Defensive Tackles.....2	Colorado.....1
Tight Ends.....2	Nebraska.....1
Athletes.....1	Virginia.....1
Kickers.....1	American Samoa.....1
Quarterbacks.....1	

Reggie Haynes	S	6'0"	170	Apopka, FL
Had two INTs in '05. Related to NFL's Sammie Smith. Nickname is "Duce."				
Danny Hogan	WR	6'2"	190	Dallas, TX
Named first-team Class 3A All-State and District 11 Offensive Player of the Year.				
Payton Kirk	DE	6'6"	240	Liberty, MO
Ranked No. 27 prospect in Missouri by Rivals.com.				
Ben Liu	G	6'6"	325	Sacramento, CA
Transfer from Sacramento CC. Named first-team All-Mid Empire Conference.				
Jeremy Mack	TE	6'4"	210	Blue Springs, MO
Named first-team Class 6A All-State by the MFCA, <i>The AP</i> and <i>Kansas City Star</i> .				
Kendrick Matthews	CB	5'10"	180	Fresno, TX
Ranked No. 72 prospect in Greater Houston Area by TexasPrepExtra.com.				
Jerrell McDaniel	WR	6'0"	175	East St. Louis, IL
First-team Class 7A All-State. Had 36 catches for 913 yards and 20 TDs in '06.				

SPOTLIGHT ON...ALESANA ALESANA

Offensive Tackle • 6'6" • 295 • Malie, Western Samoa

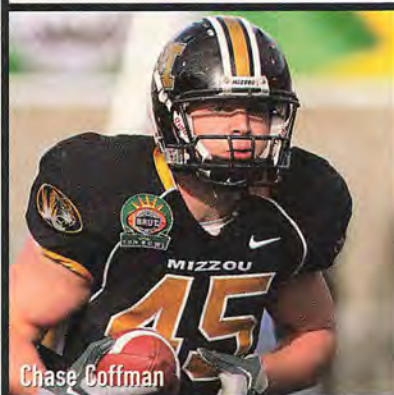
No, his middle name isn't Alesana. Kansas State junior offensive tackle Alesana Alesana (that's right — his first name is the same as his last) just might make a name for himself this season. Alesana (pronounced All-Lay-Sauna) has a legitimate shot at starting on the line for the Wildcats in his first season in Manhattan. That's good stuff when you take into consideration that Alesana has played the game for only three years. Growing up in Samoa, Alesana's game was rugby. K-State quarterback Josh Freeman believes Alesana has been a quick study on the gridiron. "That name is a little odd, but he's got really good feet," Freeman says. "He can play."

Alesana came to the Wildcats from City College of San Francisco, where he was honored as a first-team California all-state junior college player.

Deon Murphy	WR	5'10"	170	Houston, TX
Transfer from Coffeyville College. Had 36 catches for 535 yards and eight TDs in '06.				
Chris Patterson	LB	6'3"	215	Chicago, IL
Transfer from Joliet JC. Ranked No. 34 JUCO prospect and No. 6 linebacker by Rivals.				
Ernie Pierce	WR	6'4"	204	National City, CA
Transfer from Santa Barbara CC. Ranked No. 80 JUCO prospect by Rivals.com.				
Dante Pinchback	TE	6'5"	265	Irving, TX
Ranked No. 35 tight end in the country and No. 82 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com.				
Jeremy Reed	RB	5'11"	205	Great Bend, KS
Ranked No. 5 prospect in Kansas by Rivals.com. Had 1,654 yards and 29 TDs in '06.				
Jake Roepke	T	6'7"	300	Mayetta, KS
Ranked No. 20 prospect in Kansas by Rivals.com.				
Kevin Rohleder	LB	6'1"	205	Wichita, KS
First-team Class 5A All-State by <i>Topeka Capital-Journal</i> and <i>Wichita Eagle</i> .				
Eldridge Sims	T	6'6"	279	Compton, CA
Transfer from Compton College. Ranked No. 96 JUCO prospect by Rivals.com.				
Xzavier Stewart	DT	6'1"	275	Chicago, IL
Recorded 110 tackles and 11 sacks as a senior. Sat out junior season.				
Darhnaiz Tigner	S	6'2"	200	Pompano Beach, FL
Posted 110 tackles, five INTs, five fumble recoveries and two forced fumbles in '06.				
Brandon Walls	LB	6'1"	205	Irving, TX
Ranked No. 47 outside linebacker in nation and No. 70 prospect in Texas by Rivals.				
Justin Woods	RB	5'10"	180	Shawnee, KS
Ranked No. 7 prospect in Kansas by Rivals.com. Rushed for 1,344 yards and 15 TDs in '06.				

A QUICK LOOK AT THE TIGERS

Expect a lot of offense when Missouri takes the field this season. Shootouts similar to last year's 39-38 Sun Bowl loss to Oregon State could become the norm for the Tigers, who return a wealth of offensive talent but have serious depth concerns on defense. As long as quarterback **Chase Daniel** stays healthy, the offense should continue to rank among the best in the nation. Daniel is a proven winner and knows MU's spread offense inside and out. He'll lead a unit that returns 1,000-yard rusher **Tony Temple** and its four top receivers. A defense that returns only a handful of proven performers could derail the offense's efforts, though. Playmakers on the defensive line and secondary need to emerge, and except for **Brock Christopher**, the Tigers have no starting experience at linebacker. With bowl appearances three of the past four years, Missouri is in the midst of one of its more successful stretches. Still, the Tigers and their fans have been left wanting more considering North Division heavyweights Kansas State, Colorado and Nebraska have fallen back to the pack over that time. Missouri should know where it stands in the conference after playing last year's division winners — Nebraska at home followed by a road game at Oklahoma — in its first two Big 12 games.



2007 SCHEDULE

S. 1	#Illinois	W
S. 8	at Ole Miss	W
S. 15	Western Michigan	W
S. 22	Illinois State	W
O. 6	Nebraska	L
O. 13	at Oklahoma	L
O. 20	Texas Tech	W
O. 27	Iowa State	W
N. 3	at Colorado	W
N. 10	Texas A&M	L
N. 17	at Kansas State	W
N. 24	%Kansas	W
	#St. Louis, MO	
	%Kansas City, MO	

*Games in **bold** represent games crucial to the season.
W or L indicates a projected win or loss.

Bruce Schwartzman

Is this the year the Missouri Tigers finally break through on a national level? Well ... that depends. One look at all of the proven offensive talent returning, and the answer would appear to be an unequivocal, "yes!" Of course, if the Tigers have to rely on a rebuilt defense that struggled on several occasions last year stopping the run, the prognosis would probably be less optimistic.

Entering its seventh year under head coach Gary Pinkel and coming off back-to-back winning seasons for the first time since 1997 and '98, Missouri appears to have enough offensive firepower to compete with anyone in the country. Nine starters — including quarterback Chase Daniel, 1,000-yard rusher Tony Temple and All-America tight end candidates Martin Rucker and Chase Coffman — form the core of an explosive unit that returns 98 percent of its 5,533 total yards from scrimmage last season.

It's Missouri's unproven defense, however, that will likely decide how much of a dent, if any, the Tigers make on the national scene.

Quarterbacks Taking over for MU icon Brad Smith, Daniel directed an offense that ranked eighth in the country by averaging 425.6 yards per game. The cool and confident junior will be looking to improve on last year's single-season school records for passing yards (3,527), touchdowns (28) and total yards (3,906). "Now that we have a guy in Chase Daniel, who has been in the heat of battle before — along with a majority of our starters coming back — the challenge will be to be better in 2007 than we were in 2006," Pinkel says. Keeping Daniel healthy will be imperative, considering none of his backups has ever thrown a pass in college. Entering his fourth year in the program, hometown high school hero Chase Patton is the frontrunner for the No. 2 job. Considered the heir apparent to Smith when he was recruited, Patton has struggled with consistency in practices throughout his college career.

Running Backs After splitting time with Marcus Woods in 2005, Temple separated himself from a deep group of tailbacks last year by rushing for 1,063 yards and seven touchdowns. His breakout performance in the Sun Bowl — in which Temple rushed for a career-high 194 yards on 20 carries — made him the first Missouri running back to rush for 1,000 yards in a season since 2003 and makes him the Big 12's top returning rusher entering this season. Jimmy Jackson emerged as Temple's primary backup late last season and has proven to be dependable in limited opportunities. In 69 carries the past two years, he's averaged 4.4 yards a pop.

Receivers The Tigers have no shortage of receiving weapons, especially with their two tall tight end targets. Although they share the same position, Rucker and Coffman found themselves on the field at the same time in several situations last year to combine for 111 catches, 1,149 yards and 14 touchdowns. Coffman led the Tigers with 58 receptions and nine touchdowns. His 638 yards receiving edged Rucker's total of 511 for second on the team. Will Franklin led the Tigers in receiving yards (829) despite missing the final two games with a shoulder injury. Franklin's injury opened a starting spot for true freshman Jared Perry, who led all Big 12 freshmen with 37 catches for 429 yards. Danario Alexander (15 receptions) was another true freshman who played last year, and heralded 2006 recruit Jeremy Maclin could contend for playing time after missing all of last season with a knee injury. Former walk-on Tommy Saunders started every game last year and is among five returning Tigers with at least 25 catches.

NUMBERS GAME

4

Missouri has not won more than four games in Big 12 play under Gary Pinkel. The Tigers have finished 4-4 three times in Pinkel's six years, compiling a 20-28 overall conference mark.

Offensive Linemen Four players return with starting experience, led by three-year starters Adam Spieker and Tyler Luellen. Spieker has not missed a start in 36 career college games. Luellen has started 26 consecutive games at left tackle. Joining Luellen on the left side is guard Ryan Madison, who is coming off a solid first season as a starter. With Monte Wyrick, a part-time starter last year, expected to handle the other guard position, a battle for the right tackle spot could come down to 300-plus pound behemoths Kurtis Gregory or Colin Brown. Gregory missed all of spring practice recovering from shoulder surgery, and Brown is a 6'8", 325-pound athlete who was once the MVP of a high school basketball all-star game. Dain Wise leads a list of unproven sophomores and redshirt freshmen waiting in the wings.

Defensive Linemen What was arguably the strength of last year's defense is now a major question mark. The Tigers rotated a quality group off eight players at their four line positions, but half of that unit — including starting ends Xzavie Jackson and Brian Smith — has used up its eligibility. Missouri already got a taste of what it would be like playing without Smith, the school's all-time sack leader, when he was lost for the final five



Missouri QB
Chase Daniel

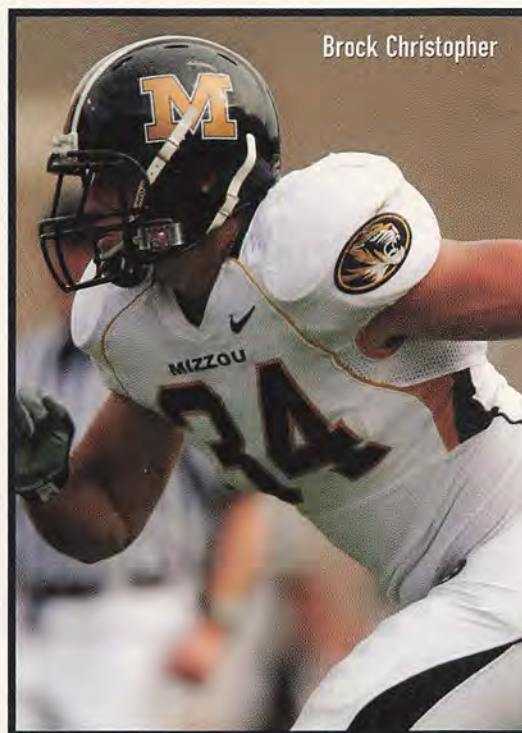
games of the season with a hip injury. The Tigers lost four of their final five games without their primary pass-rusher. Tackle Lorenzo Williams has made 25 straight starts on the defensive line since moving from defensive end. Ziggy Hood was displaying All-Big 12 potential until a foot injury slowed him down late in the year. Williams and Hood are the only proven interior players on a defensive front that struggled stopping the run. The Tigers ranked seventh in the Big 12 against the run, allowing at least 160 rushing yards in all but one conference game. "There's no question we have to get better against the run," Pinkel says. End Stryker Sulak is a proven playmaker with starting experience, and Tommy Chavis was a versatile reserve, but the Tigers don't appear to have the same depth on the line as they've had in the past.

Linebackers The Tigers return 11 games of starting experience at this position, and junior Brock Christopher has every one of those starts. With the graduation of three-year starters

Dedrick Harrington and Marcus Bacon, Missouri is dangerously thin at linebacker. So much so, sophomore running back Connell Davis — who drew comparisons to former Oklahoma superstar Adrian Peterson when he was recruited out of Texas — was moved to linebacker in the spring. With three unproven scholarship players among the top contenders for the two remaining starting spots, true freshmen Michael Keck and Luke Lambert will be given every opportunity to provide an immediate impact. The two Missouri natives both participated in spring drills after graduating from high school in December.

Defensive Backs The defection of starting cornerback Domonique Johnson in the offseason also leaves the secondary thin in returning experience. Cornerback Darnell Terrell is the only returning Tiger to start every game last year. He's a long, lean senior who has the physical tools to become one of the best in the Big 12. Although MU's two starting safeties graduated, the Tigers might be in better shape with William Moore and Pig Brown moving into those positions. Moore is considered one of the best athletes on the team and has played considerably the past two seasons. Brown, a junior college transfer, brought a swagger with him and some playmaking potential in the 11 games he played last year.

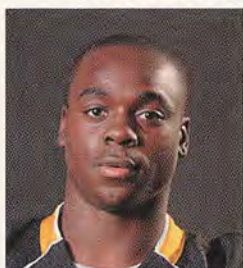
Specialists Jeff Wolfert came to Missouri on a diving scholarship and by the end of last season was a semifinalist for the Lou Groza Award. Coming out of nowhere to win the job last fall, Wolfert solidified an annually shaky position for the Tigers by making a school-record 18 field goals (on 20 attempts) and finished with 99 points. The emergence of Wolfert allowed Adam Crossett to concentrate on the punting duties. The senior will enter his third season as Missouri's punter carrying a 40.9-yard career average.



Brock Christopher

RISING STAR

Jeremy Maclin was planning to make an impact as a true freshman in 2006 before



blowing out his knee a month before practice started. He's worked his way back into shape for 2007 — reportedly posting a 40 time in the 4.3 range during the

offseason — and offers the offense another dangerous receiving threat.

SCOUTING THE TIGERS

Opposing coaches size up Missouri: "Missouri is going to be good. Chase Daniel, in my opinion, was the best quarterback in the North last year. Their scheme gives them a chance. They've got all their people in place. Their big tight ends both decided not to leave early, so that helps them. I think (Chase) Coffman may be a little better than (Martin) Rucker, but they're both awfully talented. They really get you in some mismatches on the outside because they're so big. ... Tony Temple is decent, but he has issues hanging onto the football. ... Gary Pinkel has really done a remarkable job in getting his players to compete at a very high level. This is a program that is most definitely on the rise, and it would not surprise me at all to see Mizzou win the Big 12 North this year. One of the key matchups in the division will be the Missouri-Nebraska game in early October. I give the Tigers the advantage because it is at Faurot Field and because of the quarterback (Daniel). There were times last year when he was so poised and under control that it was hard to believe he was in his first year as a starter. ... Temple is extremely explosive. ... Will Franklin is a very talented receiver. ... Defensively, they miss those two defensive ends, and there is some rebuilding to do. They won't have to outscore opponents like Texas Tech does, but they will need to control the ball and put up some points to have a chance to win the North."

KEY TIGERS

Chase Daniel, QB

The great distributor is perfect fit for Tigers' spread attack.

Chase Coffman, TE

Chase-to-Chase combination should continue to click.

Martin Rucker, TE

Considered joining brother, Mike, in NFL before returning for senior year.

Tony Temple, TB

Separated himself from backfield pack with 1,000-yard season.

Lorenzo Williams, DT

Thin D-line will need another solid season from its leader.

KEY LOSSES

Xzavie Jackson, DE

Versatile lineman was only Tiger invited to NFL combine.

Brian Smith, DE

School's all-time sack leader's midseason hip injury proved costly.

David Overstreet, S

Was vocal and vicious defender in secondary.

Domonique Johnson, CB

Started five games last year but left team in offseason.

Marcus Bacon, LB

Tigers' top tackler and All-Big 12 pick leaves little experience at linebacker.

PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE (9)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 3	Will Franklin	Sr.
WR 8	Jared Perry	So.
WR 84	Tommy Saunders	Jr.
LT 79	Tyler Luellen	Sr.
LG 76	Ryan Madison	Jr.
C 77	Adam Spieker	Sr.
RG 71	Monte Wyrick	Sr.
RT 78	Kurtis Gregory	So.
TE 82	Martin Rucker	Sr.
QB 10	Chase Daniel	Jr.
TB 22	Tony Temple	Sr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 85	Greg Bracey	Sr.
WR 9	Jeremy Maclin	Fr.
WR 81	Danario Alexander	So.
LT 68	Dain Wise	So.
LG 69	Jesse Hernandez	Fr.
C 51	James Stigall	So.
RG 62	Tim Barnes	Fr.
RT 61	Colin Brown	Jr.
TE 45	Chase Coffman	Jr.
QB 14	Chase Patton	Jr.
TB 1	Jimmy Jackson	Jr.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE (4)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 38	Stryker Sulak	Jr.
NT 99	Lorenzo Williams	Sr.
DT 94	Ziggy Hood	Jr.
DE 63	Tommy Chavis	Jr.
SLB 5	Van Alexander	Jr.
MLB 34	Brock Christopher	Jr.
WLB 12	Sean Weatherspoon	So.
CB 3	Darnell Terrell	Sr.
CB 6	Paul Simpson	Sr.
SS 13	Pig Brown	Jr.
FS 21	William Moore	Jr.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 48	Jaysen Corbett	Jr.
NT 96	Jaron Baston	So.
DT 92	Andy Maples	Jr.
DE 97	Tarell Corby	So.
SLB 18	Steve Redmond	Jr.
MLB 33	Luke Lambert	Fr.
WLB 49	Michael Keck	Fr.
CB 36	Castine Bridges	Jr.
CB 28	Hardy Ricks	So.
SS 8	Justin Garrett	Jr.
FS 17	Del Howard	So.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos. No.	Name	Class
K 99	Jeff Wolfert	Jr.
P 90	Adam Crossett	Sr.
KR 7	Earl Goldsmith	Jr.
PR 84	Tommy Saunders	Jr.

Returning Starters In Bold

2007 MISSOURI ROSTER

Quarterbacks	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
10 Daniel, Chase	QB	6'0"	225	Jr.	Southlake, TX
5 Grooms, Dominic	QB	6'1"	185	Fr.	Tampa, FL
14 Patton, Chase	QB	6'5"	220	Jr.	Columbia, MO
13 Tillman, J.P.	QB	6'3"	250	Fr.	Houston, TX

Running Backs	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
7 Goldsmith, Earl	TB	5'9"	200	Jr.	Denton, TX
32 Huff, Austin	TB	5'8"	190	So.	Brentwood, TN
1 Jackson, Jimmy	TB	5'9"	200	Jr.	Caruthersville, MO
22 Temple, Tony	TB	5'9"	200	Sr.	Kansas City, MO
20 Woods, Marcus	TB	5'8"	195	Sr.	Farmington Hills, MI

Receivers	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
81 Alexander, Danario	WR	6'4"	205	So.	Marlin, TX
85 Bracey, Greg	WR	6'2"	215	Sr.	Milwaukee, WI
28 Casey, Adam	WR	6'1"	195	Jr.	Chesterfield, MO
45 Coffman, Chase	TE	6'6"	245	Jr.	Peculiar, MO
3 Franklin, Will	WR	6'2"	205	Sr.	St. Louis, MO
86 Gares, Chris	WR	5'11"	195	So.	Hartsburg, MO
43 Gissinger, Jon	TE	6'3"	235	So.	San Diego, CA
9 Maclin, Jeremy	WR	6'1"	185	Fr.	Kirkwood, MO
26 May, Blake	WR	5'11"	190	So.	Kansas City, MO
87 Null, Lucas	WR	6'0"	200	Jr.	Crystal City, MO
31 Oldroyd, Michale	WR	5'10"	170	Fr.	Eureka, MO
8 Perry, Jared	WR	6'1"	170	So.	La Marque, TX
4 Ray, Jason	WR	6'1"	215	Sr.	Porter, OK
82 Rucker, Martin	TE	6'6"	255	Sr.	St. Joseph, MO
84 Saunders, Tommy	WR	6'0"	210	Jr.	Kearney, MO
88 Shock, Forrest	WR	6'1"	200	Fr.	Osage Beach, MO
11 Vaughns, Tremaine	WR/DB	5'9"	180	Jr.	Patterson, LA

Offensive Linemen	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
62 Barnes, Tim	G	6'4"	305	Fr.	Marshall, MO
70 Bowen, Gordon	OL	6'1"	300	So.	Memphis, TN
61 Brown, Colin	T	6'8"	325	Jr.	Braymer, MO
78 Gregory, Kurtis	T	6'5"	305	So.	Blackburn, MO
69 Hernandez, Jesse	G	6'2"	305	Fr.	Ardmore, OK
79 Luellen, Tyler	T	6'7"	295	Sr.	Bethany, MO
76 Madison, Ryan	G	6'5"	300	Jr.	Bethany, MO
65 Prince, Mike	OL	6'4"	295	Fr.	Southlake, TX
57 Schelsneur, Ryan	OL	6'3"	250	Fr.	Maryville, MO
77 Spieker, Adam	C	6'3"	305	Sr.	Webb City, MO
51 Stigall, James	C	6'3"	305	So.	Blue Springs, MO
54 Tipton, Chris	OL	6'4"	310	Sr.	Bowling Green, MO
50 Vaughn, Jamie	OL	6'2"	250	Fr.	Elgin, IL
68 Wise, Dain	T	6'5"	305	So.	Midwest City, OK
71 Wyrick, Monte	G	6'5"	325	Sr.	Texarkana, AR

Defensive Linemen	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
96 Baston, Jaron	NT	6'1"	295	So.	Blue Springs, MO
95 Blair, Steven	DL	6'3"	235	Sr.	Godfrey, IL
63 Chavis, Tommy	DE	6'2"	280	Jr.	Orange, TX
48 Corbett, Jaysen	DE	6'4"	260	Jr.	Galt, CA
97 Corby, Tarell	DE	6'3"	235	So.	Kansas City, MO
98 Coslet, Bart	DL	6'5"	240	Fr.	St. Peters, MO

91 Gaines, Charles	DL	6'1"	305	Sr.	Hayti, MO
94 Hood, Ziggy	DT	6'4"	295	Jr.	Amarillo, TX
53 Loyd, Andy	DL	6'2"	220	Fr.	Branson, MO
92 Maples, Andy	DT	6'4"	295	Jr.	Lester, AL
65 Milligan, Zach	DL	6'1"	220	Fr.	Hardin, MO
93 Stull, John	DL	6'4"	275	Fr.	Columbia, MO
38 Sulak, Stryker	DE	6'5"	240	Jr.	Rockdale, TX
99 Williams, Lorenzo	NT	6'1"	295	Sr.	Midwest City, OK

Linebackers	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
5 Alexander, Van	SLB	6'0"	230	Jr.	Columbia, MO
32 Barge, Quran	LB	6'0"	215	Jr.	Camden, NJ
40 Booker, Marquis	LB	6'1"	235	Fr.	Ardmore, OK
34 Christopher, Brock	MLB	6'2"	240	Jr.	Kearney, MO
2 Davis, Connell	LB	6'3"	215	So.	Portland, TX
43 Galbreath, Marlon	LB	6'2"	215	Fr.	Jefferson City, MO
53 Gettys, Jeff	LB	6'3"	215	Fr.	Houston, MO
49 Keck, Michael	TE/LB	6'5"	215	Fr.	Harrisonville, MO
33 Lambert, Luke	TB/LB	6'3"	215	Fr.	Brookfield, MO
25 O'Neal, Aaron	LB	6'3"	220	Jr.	Creve Coeur, MO
18 Redmond, Steve	SLB	6'0"	235	Jr.	Kansas City, MO
41 Ruth, John	LB	5'10"	220	Jr.	Jefferson City, MO
64 Schumacher, Joe	LB	5'11"	235	So.	Columbia, MO
12 Weatherspoon, Sean	WLB	6'1"	230	So.	Jasper, TX

Defensive Backs	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
24 Breed, Mack	S	6'1"	205	Jr.	San Antonio, TX
36 Bridges, Castine	CB	6'2"	200	Jr.	Richmond, CA
13 Brown, Pig	SS	5'11"	205	Sr.	Adel, GA
10 Cardoza, Travis	S	5'11"	205	Sr.	Springfield, MO
35 Davis, Jeremy	DB	6'1"	185	Fr.	St. Louis, MO
26 Duncan, Kevin	S	5'10"	205	Jr.	O'Fallon, IL
8 Garrett, Justin	SS	6'2"	200	Jr.	Baton Rouge, LA
17 Howard, Del	FS	5'11"	195	So.	Dallas, TX
22 Joanes, Alex	S	6'3"	200	So.	Blair Oaks, MO
21 Moore, William	FS	6'1"	215	Jr.	Hayti, MO
29 Newsome, Sherman	DB	5'10"	170	So.	New Madrid, MO
28 Ricks, Hardy	CB	6'0"	190	So.	St. Louis, MO
20 Rudin, Erik	DB	5'9"	180	So.	St. Louis, MO
16 Rutland, Kevin	S	6'0"	185	Fr.	Houston, TX
6 Simpson, Paul	CB	6'2"	190	Sr.	Oakland, CA
3 Terrell, Darnell	CB	6'3"	205	Sr.	St. Louis, MO
30 Thomas, La'Roderick	DB	6'0"	185	Fr.	Dallas, TX
9 Washington, Trenile	DB	5'11"	190	Jr.	Marietta, OK

Specialists	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
90 Crossett, Adam	P/K	6'3"	225	Sr.	Liberty, MO
99 Wolfert, Jeff	K	6'2"	185	Jr.	Overland Park, KS

Head Coach: Gary Pinkel • Record at School: 37-35 (6 years) • Career Record: 110-72-3 (16 years)

Offensive Coordinator: Dave Christensen • Defensive Coordinator: Matt Eberflus • Columbia, Mo. • Faurot Field/Memorial Stadium (68,349)

2006 INDIVIDUAL STATS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.
Chase Daniel	452	287	3,527	28	10

Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Tony Temple	193	1,063	5.5	7
Chase Daniel	147	379	2.6	4
Jimmy Jackson	32	123	3.8	1

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Chase Coffman	58	638	11.0	9
Martin Rucker	53	511	9.6	5
Will Franklin	48	829	17.3	6
Jared Perry	37	429	11.6	3

Kicking: Jeff Wolfert, 18-20 FGs, 45-45 XPs, 99 points

Tackles: Marcus Bacon, 115; Dedrick Harrington, 100

Sacks: Xzavie Jackson, 8.0

Interceptions: Brandon Massey, 3

Returning Players in Bold



OUTSIDE THE HUDDLE

Making a splash Jeff Wolfert came to Missouri on a diving scholarship. After his freshman year, in which he posted top-5 finishes at the Big 12 Championships, he gave up that scholarship to walk on to the football team. Although Wolfert had played in only one high school game — he made two extra points before suffering a season-ending injury — he beat out incumbent Adam Crossett for the kicking job last fall and made a school-record 18 field goals (including a 54-yarder against Nebraska) and scored 99 points. He'll take a streak of 15 consecutive field goals and 38 PATs into this season.

Workout warrior After starting three games in 2005, former walk-on receiver Tommy Saunders set a goal of claiming an outright starting position and doing 100,000 pushups in the 2006 calendar year. Well, he started all 13 games for the Tigers, catching 25 passes, and completed the year with 100,084 pushups to match his jersey number of 84.

Scary situation A week before spring practice started, nose tackle Lorenzo Williams woke up in the middle of the night with pain shooting down his left leg. He called the team trainer the next morning and, after an examination, the pain was diagnosed as anterior compartment syndrome — a condition that develops when the leg muscle becomes too big for the sheath that surrounds it. It affects the nerves, can cause severe pain and possibly footdrop if not detected. Williams underwent surgery that involved getting two incisions to let the muscle expand. The two-year starter missed the early portion of spring drills, but the condition was not expected to affect his senior year.

Name game From the moment he came to Missouri as a junior college transfer, Cornelius Brown requested he be called Pig — a name given to him at a young age by his grandmother because of his eating habits. Brown refers to Cornelius as his government name.

2006 RESULTS

Record: 8-5 (4-4 Big 12)

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Att.
S. 2	Murray State	W	47-7	50,074
S. 9	Ole Miss	W	34-7	51,112
S. 16	at New Mexico	W	27-17	27,806
S. 23	Ohio	W	31-6	50,098
S. 30	Colorado	W	28-13	57,824
O. 7	at Texas Tech	W	38-21	49,050
O. 14	at Texas A&M	L	19-25	71,136
O. 21	Kansas State	W	41-21	64,657
O. 28	Oklahoma	L	10-26	62,045
N. 4	at Nebraska	L	20-34	85,197
N. 18	at Iowa State	L	16-21	39,631
N. 25	Kansas	W	42-17	55,614
D. 29	#Oregon State	L	38-39	48,732
	#Sun Bowl			

Bruce Schwartzman

Tony Temple

2007 RECRUITING

Missouri's coaching staff focused on sealing the state's borders and directing the top talent in the state to its campus in Columbia. A 6-0 start to the 2006 season helped the Tigers gather several early verbal commitments from some of the state's top high school recruits. Although heralded homegrown recruits Logan Gray and Aron White both chose to play in the SEC at Georgia, the Tigers signed 10 of the state's best — including national recruit Michael Keck out of Harrisonville High School. Besides signing the two best linebacker recruits in the state (Keck and Brookfield's Luke Lambert), Missouri scored big in the Kansas City and St. Louis metro areas by signing three of the state's top running backs. Carl Gettis and De'Vion Moore were considered the top running backs in the St. Louis area, and Derrick Washington was clearly the No. 1 running back on the west side of the state after leading Raymore-Peculiar to its third straight state championship at the Class 5 level. By cleaning up early with in-state recruits, the MU coaches were able to confidently reach out to their other state of emphasis — Texas — and collect signatures from two high-profile recruits: Gilbert Moya, an athletic quarterback/defensive back from Jasper, and 280-pound El Paso defensive lineman Dominique Hamilton, who chose the Tigers over Big 12 foes Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas A&M. Moya is expected to start his career at quarterback, but he could end up playing any number of positions in college. Searching for immediate help on the defensive line and secondary, the Tigers signed five junior college recruits at those positions.

J.T. Beasley	C	6'2"	275	Dyersburg, TN
Ranked No. 16 center in nation and No. 23 prospect in Tennessee by Rivals.com.				
Jaysen Corbett	DE	6'4"	260	Galt, CA
Transfer from Sacramento (Calif.) City College. Had 70 tackles and 10 sacks in '06.				
Tyler Crane	LB	6'3"	225	Allen, TX
Recorded 98 tackles, nine sacks, four forced fumbles and three INTs as a senior.				
Chris Earnhardt	DE	6'5"	250	Springfield, MO
No. 12 prospect in Missouri by Rivals.com. Named first-team All-State and Area Defensive Player of the Year by MSHA. Had 108 tackles and 11 sacks as a senior.				
Elvis Fisher	T	6'5"	300	St. Petersburg, FL
Ranked No. 53 offensive tackle in the country by SuperPrep.				
Andrew Gachkar	LB	6'3"	210	Overland Park, KS
No. 12 prospect in Kansas by Rivals.com. Had 83 tackles and two INTs in '05.				
Justin Garrett	S	6'2"	200	Baton Rouge, LA
Transfer from Pasadena (Calif.) City College. Ranked No. 6 JUCO safety by SuperPrep.				
Carl Gettis	RB	5'11"	190	O'Fallon, MO
No. 11 prospect in Missouri and No. 45 running back in country by Rivals.com. Rushed for 1,300 yards and 21 TDs as a senior; 1,186 yards and 14 TDs as a junior.				

Dominique Hamilton	DT	6'6"	280	El Paso, TX
Ranked No. 29 defensive tackle in nation by SuperPrep.				
Jake Harry	P/K	6'1"	190	Cardiff-by-the-Sea, CA
Transfer from Palomar (Calif.) JC. Averaged 38.9 yards per punt in '06.				
Trey Hobson	S	5'11"	180	Stanley, KS
No. 10 prospect in Kansas and No. 68 safety in the country by Rivals.com.				
Kendall Irving	WR	6'0"	180	Arlington, TX
Did not play football until junior season. Suffered knee injury in '06. Also ran track.				
Andy Maples	DT	6'4"	295	Lester, AL
Transfer from College of the Sequoias (Calif.). No. 15 JUCO prospect by Rivals.				
De'Vion Moore	CB	5'9"	185	St. Louis, MO
No. 18 prospect in Missouri by Rivals.com. Named first-team All-State in '06.				
Gilbert Moya	QB	6'2"	205	Jasper, TX
No. 30 prospect in Texas and No. 30 athlete in the country by Rivals.com.				
Donte Neal	S	5'11"	195	Arlington, TX
Recorded 88 tackles and five sacks in '06; 73 tackles in '05; three INTs in '04.				

SPOTLIGHT ON...MICHAEL KECK & LUKE LAMBERT

Michael Keck • Linebacker • 6'5" • 215 • Harrisonville, MO

Luke Lambert • Linebacker • 6'3" • 215 • Brookfield, MO

Michael Keck and Luke Lambert became the first high school recruits to enroll a semester early at Missouri, and the decision — which provided them the opportunity to participate in spring practice — could pay early dividends for the incoming freshmen and the Tigers. The two Missouri natives were recruited as linebackers, and it's a position in dire need of scholarship talent with the Tigers losing three-year starters Marcus Bacon and Dedrick Harrington to graduation.

Keck, who played primarily at defensive end in high school, is the more heralded of the two recruits after totaling 373 career tackles and leading Harrisonville High School to three state titles at the Class 3 level. Lambert, the first verbal commitment of the Tigers' 2007 recruiting class, amassed 383 career stops at tiny Brookfield High School — a Class 1 program. The two new recruits showed flashes during spring drills and should be even better when fall practice begins. "They're going to be further ahead once they go through the whole system one time," MU defensive coordinator Matt Eberflus says. "In two-a-days, we'll see a remarkable difference because they'll know where to go, what to do and how to do it."

Jayson Palmgren	G	6'3"	295	Kansas City, MO
Ranked No. 8 prospect in Missouri and No. 21 guard in the nation by Rivals.com.				
Terrell Resonno	DE	6'6"	250	Jefferson City, MO
No. 7 prospect in Missouri and No. 40 strongside defensive end by Rivals.com.				
Jason Townson	DE	6'4"	260	St. Louis, MO
Transfer from College of the Sequoias (Calif.). Originally signed with Mizzou in '05.				
Tremaine Vaughns	WR	5'9"	180	Patterson, LA
Transfer from Pasadena (Calif.) City College. No. 94 JUCO prospect by Rivals.				
Derrick Washington	RB	6'1"	195	Peculiar, MO
No. 5 prospect in Missouri and No. 20 running back in the country by Rivals.com. Named Kansas City Class 5A Offensive Player of the Year in '05 and '06. Rushed for 1,930 yards and 31 TDs as a senior; 1,326 yards and 22 TDs as a junior.				
Bryan Webb	T	6'6"	270	Tecumseh, OK
Ranked No. 24 prospect in Oklahoma by Rivals.com.				
George White	LB	6'3"	255	Flint, MI
No. 17 prospect in Michigan and No. 24 inside linebacker in nation by Rivals.				
Rolandis Woodland	WR	6'5"	190	St. Louis, MO
Ranked No. 9 prospect in Missouri by Rivals.com. Had 30 catches for 800 yards and 13 TDs as a senior; 15 catches for 404 yards, on 26.9 yards per catch, and 10 TDs as a junior; 101 tackles and nine INTs on defense as a sophomore.				
Austin Wuebbels	G	6'4"	260	Troy, IL
No. 29 prospect in Illinois and No. 47 guard in the country by Rivals.com.				

RECRUITING BREAKDOWN

By Position	By State
Defensive Linemen 6	Missouri 10
Linebackers 5	Texas 5
Offensive Linemen 5	California 2
Defensive Backs 4	Kansas 2
Wide Receivers 3	Louisiana 2
Running Backs 2	Alabama 1
Quarterbacks 1	Florida 1
Punter/Kicker 1	Illinois 1
	Michigan 1
	Oklahoma 1
	Tennessee 1

What a difference one game can make. A victory over Auburn in the Cotton Bowl would have gone a long way toward certifying the progress Nebraska has made in Bill Callahan's three seasons.

The Cornhuskers have improved each season, going 9-5 with a Big 12 North title in 2006. When he was hired, Callahan was charged with building a program that would consistently contend not only for the conference title but also for the national championship. Reaching the Big 12 title game for the first time since 1999 was a step in that direction. Losing to Oklahoma in the game was not, however, and then following with the Cotton Bowl loss further cooled the optimism of a 9-3 regular season.

"I think we're on course," Callahan says. "I would say that there are some vital factors that have validated what we've achieved and how we've improved and how we're progressing."

Statistically, Nebraska made dramatic strides both offensively and defensively. But the numbers still didn't add up to a return to national prominence. They need to, and sooner rather than later.

The Cornhuskers should return to the Big 12 Championship Game. But the program's progress will be measured from that point on.

Quarterbacks Callahan has maintained that he won't settle on a starter until the week of the opener. But Sam Keller, a much-publicized senior transfer from Arizona State, would seem to be a perfect fit for the coach's system. He has shown he knows how to attack a defense. Before suffering a thumb injury in 2005, he threw for 2,165 yards and 20 touchdowns with nine interceptions, the sort of production to which the Cornhuskers became accustomed with Zac Taylor at the controls. Joe Ganz, the top backup for Taylor, is more athletic than Keller and capable of making plays on his own. He also knows the system and its progressions better. But Keller, who dropped on the depth chart unexpectedly at Arizona State, put an NFL future on hold for a season to come to Nebraska. "Being here was a breath of fresh air," he says.

Running Backs None of the four in Nebraska's running back "committee" was a senior last season. But only two remain, Marlon Lucky and Cody Glenn. And Glenn was still bothered in the spring by a right foot injury suffered in the next-to-last regular-season game at Texas A&M. Brandon Jackson, first-team All-Big 12, opted to skip his senior season for the NFL, and Kenny Wilson has been lost for the season because of a non-football injury, suffered moving a

television set. As a result, a solid position has become a question mark, necessitating the move of defensive back Major Culbert during spring practice. Lucky has "tremendous upside, not only as a ball carrier but as a receiver as well, maybe more upside as a receiving-type back than any back since I've been here," says Callahan. Glenn is the short-yardage, big back, if he's healthy. If not, freshman Quentin Castille might have to step up.

NUMBERS GAME

965

Nebraska led the nation in offensive plays, 554 rushing and 411 passing. "It tells you we're moving the

chains," Bill Callahan says. "It means the system is working."



Receivers Callahan's offense is receiver friendly, of course, and Nebraska has some good ones, led by Maurice Purify and Terrence Nunn.

Purify, who also was recruited by some schools to play basketball, has the size and athleticism on which Callahan has placed a premium. He was eased into the offense after transferring from San Francisco City College but still finished with 34 catches for 630 yards and seven touchdowns. Nunn, a regular for three seasons, is on pace to surpass Johnny Rodgers on Nebraska's career receptions list. Frantz Hardy is the fastest of the receivers, a down-the-field threat. Nate Swift, who caught 45 passes two seasons ago as a redshirt freshman, and Todd Peterson are among others in the rotation. Tight ends, also plentiful, will be used as receivers as well as blockers. J.B. Phillips, Josh Mueller and Hunter Teafatiller caught a combined 23 passes, eight of them for touchdowns.

Offensive Linemen The look of the line has changed under Callahan. It is "big, square, physical," he says. "It's the profile we've been trying to achieve since we've been here." The linemen also are interchangeable, tackles and guards, right and left. In addition to center, where Brett Byford returns as starter, left tackle appears to be set with Carl Nicks, who started the final two games at right tackle last season. Mike Huff, Andy Christensen and Matt Slauson, a widebody who's tough to get around, combined to start 30 games last year. Huff and Christensen are guards, as is Slauson now. In shuffling, he went from right tackle to right guard after being injured and replaced by Nicks. And when Nicks moved to left tackle, Lydon Murtha moved from left tackle to right tackle. Confused?

A QUICK LOOK AT THE CORNHUSKERS

Nebraska figures to repeat as Big 12 North champion and with an indoor title game at the Alamodome, it would have a better shot to win this time. North Division or not, the Cornhusker offense is built for controlled conditions, hardly the case last season in Kansas City. Still, getting to San Antonio isn't a lock. Offensively, Zac Taylor, the right quarterback at the right time for the development of Bill Callahan's system, must be replaced; the line must continue to improve; and Marlon Lucky not only has to play to the level of his recruiting hype but also must stay healthy. If the line can protect Taylor's successor, likely Sam Keller, the receivers are capable of making plays, most notably Maurice Purify and Terrence Nunn. Defensively, the concern, and it's a significant one, is up front, where all four must be replaced. Rumors in the spring — reporters were excluded for the first time under Callahan — were that the defense might be shifting to a 3-4 base. The linebacking will be solid, if not outstanding, and an improved secondary will allow for more versatility, even if Zack Bowman is unable to return at close to full speed. Special teams play continues to be an emphasis but Callahan must break in a new kicker.



Bo Rudd

2007 SCHEDULE

S. 1	Nebraska	W
S. 8	at Wake Forest	W
S. 15	USC	L
S. 22	Ball State	W
S. 29	Iowa State	W
O. 6	at Missouri	W
O. 13	Oklahoma State	W
O. 20	Texas A&M	*
O. 27	at Texas	L
N. 3	at Kansas	W
N. 10	Kansas State	W
N. 23	at Colorado	W

*Games in bold represent games crucial to the season.
W or L indicates a projected win or loss



Nebraska RB
Marlon Lucky

Add Jacob Hickman to the mix and that probably will be the line, in some combination.

Defensive Linemen Everyone has to be replaced up front, no small task for first-year defensive line coach Buddy Wyatt considering the quality of the departed players. Ndamukong Suh and Ty Steinkuhler are known quantities on the inside. According to Callahan, Suh can be an all-conference nose tackle and Steinkuhler is ready to come into his own. The son of former Cornhusker Outland Trophy and Lombardi Award winner Dean Steinkuhler began his career as an end and has the ability to move out to base end. Barry Turner is experienced at open end as a pass rusher. But he'll need to be an every-down player now and deal with the run. Zach Potter has played in Adam Carriker's shadow for two seasons. Clayton Sievers has been moved from tight end to linebacker and now open end to shore up the position.



Linebackers Linebacking is the strength of the defense, led by two-year starters Bo Ruud and Corey McKeon. Ruud has been moved from weak side to

strong side to replace the departed Stewart Bradley and utilize his pass rushing and coverage ability in redefined responsibilities at his new position. If he can stay healthy, Steve Octavien, with his size and speed, has big-play ability on the weak side, while Lance Brandenburg can, and has, played all three linebacking positions. McKeon also gets the job done with quickness. He's not particularly big for a middle linebacker, but dealing with Big 12 offenses is different than dealing with, say, Big Ten offenses. In any case, the linebackers, with those four seniors, are the leaders on defense.

Defensive Backs The secondary will be better, even though the status of cornerback Zack Bowman is uncertain. Bowman, who missed last season because of an ACL injury, suffered a ruptured patellar tendon in the other knee in spring practice. Even so, Cortney Grixby and Andre Jones are proven corners, and junior college transfer Armando Murillo went through spring practice. None of the three have Bowman's size, however, so important in dealing some big receivers on the schedule. Nebraska wants more physical play from its safeties. Tierre Green, who started at corner two years ago, has moved from strong to free safety. Larry Asante brought a reputation for hard hitting from junior college, and Rickey Thenarse established one on special teams. An improved secondary allows for more versatility. Last season, it didn't even allow for the kind of nickel packages defensive coordinator Kevin Cosgrove would have liked.

Specialists The surprise departure of Jordan Congdon, a freshman All-American in 2005, has left the placekicking duties up for grabs. Walk-on Jake Wesch, Congdon's backup who handled kickoffs, and redshirt freshman Alex Henery competed in the spring, but the competition will be open again when freshman Adi Kunalic arrives. Punter Dan Titchener returns. Callahan determined that poor field position was a factor in Nebraska's poor third-quarter play last year. That, in turn, was attributable to kickoff returns.

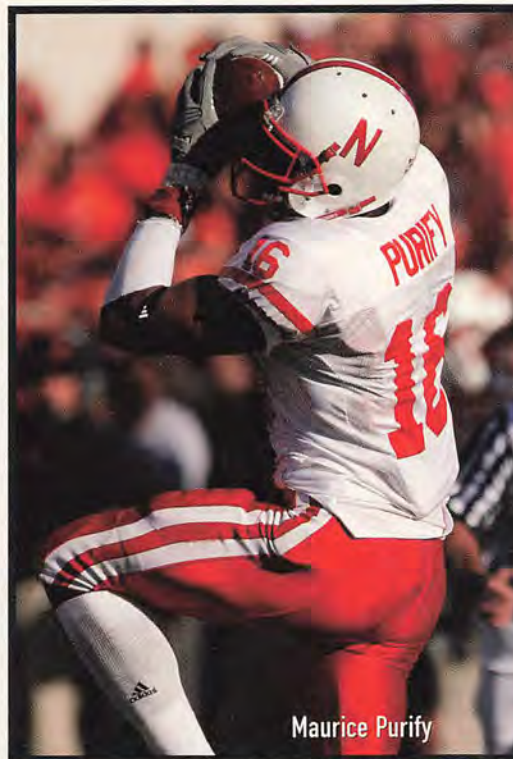
RISING STAR



Sam Keller, a transfer from Arizona State, is not exactly an unknown, even though he was the scout-team quarterback last season. He fit in immediately, and not surprisingly, was named offensive scout team player of the year.

SCOUTING THE CORNHUSKERS

Opposing coaches size up Nebraska: "Nebraska has done an unbelievable job of recruiting. I thought their quarterback position would be the big question mark, but then they go and get (Sam) Keller from Arizona State. ... They've got so much tradition they'll always get it done in recruiting. They do a great job scheme-wise. The head coach is the offensive coordinator. People questioned his offense during his first year, but they had offensive tackles that couldn't pass protect and a quarterback who couldn't throw. Then they got Zac Taylor and he did a tremendous job. They've got some wide receivers that are going to really help them. ... I'm still not sure when I am going to feel natural talking about Nebraska's potent passing game, but it is very effective. ... Maurice Purify and Terrence Nunn are quality receivers, but I'm still not sold on their running game. I just don't think you can win consistently in Lincoln when your running game is just middle-of-the-pack in the Big 12. ... Bill Callahan made a believer out of me last year, winning with more finesse passing than the old-school Huskers. But with a new QB and a brutal schedule, I'm not sold on Nebraska being able to repeat in the North."



Maurice Purify

KEY CORNHUSKERS

Maurice Purify, WR

Nebraska puts a premium on big-bodied wide receivers, and he's the go-to guy.

Marlon Lucky, IB

Much-publicized out of high school, he is poised for a breakout season.

Sam Keller, QB

Based on his Arizona State stats, he's the perfect fit for Bill Callahan's offense.

Corey McKeon, LB

Two-year starter and vocal leader in the middle of the defense.

Carl Nicks, T

Physical presence, moved to the left side to protect the quarterback's blindside.

KEY LOSSES

Adam Carriker, DE

Big 12 Defensive Lineman of the Year could play outside or in.

Zac Taylor, QB

Big 12 Offensive Player of the Year made many Nebraska passing records his own.

Brandon Jackson, IB

Versatile runner and receiver, opted to leave early for the NFL

Stewart Bradley, LB

Led the team in tackles at strongside backer but big enough to play on the line.

Jay Moore, DE

Two-year starter, overshadowed by Carriker but was a force on the outside.

PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE (6)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 83	Terrence Nunn	Sr.
WR 16	Maurice Purify	Sr.
WR 87	Nate Swift	Jr.
LT 77	Carl Nicks	Sr.
LG 62	Andy Christensen	Jr.
C 59	Brett Byford	Sr.
RG 70	Matt Slauson	Jr.
RT 76	Lydon Murtha	Jr.
TE 85	J.B. Phillips	Sr.
QB 9	Sam Keller	Sr.
IB 20	Marlon Lucky	Jr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
WR 7	Frantz Hardy	Sr.
WR 17	Todd Peterson	Jr.
WR 4	Menelik Holt	So.
LT 97	Jacob Hickman	So.
LG 68	Keith Williams	Fr.
C 75	Victory Haines	Sr.
RG 61	Mike Huff	Jr.
RT 73	D.J. Jones	Fr.
TE 89	Hunter Teafattiller	Jr.
QB 12	Joe Ganz	Jr.
IB 34	Cody Glenn	Jr.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE (5)

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 98	Zach Potter	Jr.
NT 93	Ndamukong Suh	So.
DT 43	Ty Steinkuhler	Jr.
DE 99	Barry Turner	Jr.
LB 51	Bo Ruud	Sr.
LB 13	Corey McKeon	Sr.
LB 15	Steve Octavien	Sr.
CB 2	Cortney Grixby	Sr.
CB 25	Andre Jones	Sr.
S 30	Tierre Green	Sr.
S 4	Larry Asante	So.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Pos. No.	Name	Class
DE 95	Pierre Allen	Fr.
NT 56	Shukree Barfield	Jr.
DT	Kevin Dixon	Jr.
DE 88	Clayton Sievers	Jr.
LB 38	Kyle Moore	Fr.
LB 52	Phillip Dillard	So.
LB 40	Lance Brandenburg	Sr.
CB 5	Armando Murillo	Jr.
CB 14	Zack Bowman	Sr.
S 9	Bryan Wilson	Sr.
S 3	Rickey Thenarse	So.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos. No.	Name	Class
K 37	Jake Wesch	Jr.
P 97	Dan Titchener	Jr.
KR 20	Marlon Lucky	Jr.
PR 83	Terrence Nunn	Sr.

Returning Starters In Bold

2007 NEBRASKA ROSTER

Quarterbacks						Defensive Linemen							
	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown		
15	Davis, Beau	QB	6'4"	180	Jr.	Venice, CA	95	Allen, Pierre	DE	6'5"	265	Fr.	Denver, CO
12	Ganz, Joe	QB	6'1"	200	Jr.	Palos Heights, IL	56	Barfield, Shukree	NT	6'4"	310	Jr.	Camden, NJ
5	Keller, Sam	QB	6'4"	230	Sr.	Danville, CA		Fahie, Tyrone	DL	6'3"	260	Fr.	Virginia Beach, VA
3	Lee, Zac	QB	6'2"	210	So.	San Francisco, CA	80	Harvey, David	DE	6'4"	255	So.	LaPlata, MD
6	Witt, Patrick	QB	6'4"	220	Fr.	Wylie, TX	91	Jensen, Seth	DT	6'3"	295	Fr.	Fort Morgan, CO
							71	Jepson, Zach	DT	6'2"	235	Fr.	Omaha, NE
							96	Johnson, Brandon	DT	6'3"	315	Sr.	Chicago, IL
Running Backs													
	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown								
6	Culbert, Major	IB	6'0"	210	So.	Harbor City, CA	89	Luhrs, Kevin	DT	6'1"	270	Sr.	Omaha, NE
	Gillaspie, Aaron	FB	6'2"	235	Fr.	Littleton, CO	63	Martin, Ben	DT	6'4"	270	Fr.	Lincoln, NE
34	Glenn, Cody	IB	6'0"	230	Jr.	Rusk, TX	98	Potter, Zach	DE	6'7"	280	Jr.	Omaha, NE
36	Lawson, Thomas	FB/IB	6'0"	240	Jr.	Parker, CO	86	Poulosky, Andy	DE	6'2"	255	Sr.	Ponca, NE
20	Lucky, Marlon	IB	6'0"	210	Jr.	North Hollywood, CA	85	Rice, Thomas	DE	6'1"	240	Sr.	Lincoln, NE
35	Makovicka, Justin	FB	6'1"	235	Fr.	Ulysses, NE	55	Roark, Craig	DT	6'2"	305	So.	Ada, OK
32	Mendoza, Marcus	IB	5'10"	185	Fr.	Houston, TX	88	Sievers, Clayton	DE	6'4"	245	Jr.	Elkhorn, NE
48	Sand, Andy	FB	6'2"	230	Sr.	Lincoln, NE	43	Steinkuhler, Ty	DT	6'3"	285	Jr.	Lincoln, NE
42	Senske, Matt	FB	6'3"	245	Sr.	Bellevue, NE	93	Suh, Ndamukong	NT	6'4"	305	So.	Portland, OR
27	Wilson, Kenny	IB	6'0"	220	Sr.	Liberal, KS	84	Sullivan, Tony	DE	6'3"	240	Sr.	Wahoo, NE
							99	Turner, Barry	DE	6'3"	250	Jr.	Antioch, TN
Receivers						Linebackers							
	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown		
1	Brooks, Chris	WR	6'2"	210	So.	St. Louis, MO	40	Brandenburg, Lance	LB	6'1"	230	Sr.	Overland Park, KS
82	Cammack, Wes	WR	5'11"	185	So.	DeWitt, NE	45	Covey, Nick	LB	6'2"	240	So.	Glendale, AZ
26	Erickson, Dan	WR	6'1"	195	Sr.	Omaha, NE	52	Dillard, Phillip	LB	6'1"	250	So.	Tulsa, OK
39	Glassman, Dan	TE	6'4"	245	Fr.	Omaha, NE	40	Koehler, Colton	LB	6'1"	230	So.	Harvard, NE
7	Hardy, Frantz	WR	6'1"	190	Sr.	Miami, FL	13	McKeon, Corey	LB	6'1"	225	Sr.	Naperville, IL
9	Henry, Will	WR	6'5"	210	Fr.	El Paso, TX	58	McNeil, Andy	LB	6'1"	245	Fr.	Omaha, NE
86	Hill, Sean	TE	6'3"	250	Sr.	Lisle, IL	38	Moore, Kyle	LB	6'2"	225	Fr.	Elkhorn, NE
4	Holt, Menelik	WR	6'4"	215	So.	San Diego, CA	15	Octavien, Steve	LB	6'0"	240	Sr.	Naples, FL
30	Kitzul, Patrick	WR	6'1"	195	Fr.	Driftwood, TX	51	Ruud, Bo	LB	6'3"	235	Sr.	Lincoln, NE
44	McNeill, Mike	TE	6'4"	225	Fr.	Kirkwood, MO	53	Wortman, Tyler	LB	6'3"	230	Jr.	Grand Island, NE
81	Mueller, Josh	TE	6'5"	265	Sr.	Columbus, NE	Defensive Backs						
83	Nunn, Terrence	WR	6'0"	190	Sr.	Houston, TX		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	
17	Peterson, Todd	WR	6'4"	210	Jr.	Grand Island, NE	4	Asante, Larry	S	6'1"	210	So.	Alexandria, VA
85	Phillips, J.B.	TE	6'3"	245	Sr.	Colleyville, TX	14	Bowman, Zack	CB	6'2"	200	Sr.	Anchorage, AK
16	Purify, Maurice	WR	6'4"	220	Sr.	Eureka, CA	46	Eisenhart, Ben	S	5'11"	200	Sr.	Culbertson, NE
84	Rucker, Xavier	WR	5'6"	160	Fr.	Minneapolis, MN	27	Ford, Ryan	DB	5'11"	175	So.	Winfield, AL
87	Swift, Nate	WR	6'2"	200	Jr.	Hutchinson, MN	30	Green, Tierre	S	6'1"	200	Sr.	Omaha, NE
46	Tasa, Ben	TE	6'4"	230	Fr.	Humphrey, NE	2	Grixby, Cortney	CB	5'9"	170	Sr.	Omaha, NE
89	Teafattiller, Hunter	TE	6'3"	230	Jr.	Kingsburg, CA	25	Jones, Andre	CB	6'0"	190	Sr.	Fort Walton Bch., FL
49	Young, Dreu	TE	6'4"	220	Fr.	Cozad, NE	19	Kester, Tyler	DB	6'1"	205	Sr.	Clearwater, NE
Offensive Linemen													
	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown								
66	Barrett, Cruz	OL	6'4"	325	Fr.	Daytona Beach, FL	5	Murillo, Armando	CB	6'0"	195	Jr.	Tampa, FL
57	Bergland, Dennis	OL	6'1"	290	Fr.	Plattsburgh, NE	33	O'Hanlon, Matt	S	5'11"	200	Jr.	Bellevue, NE
59	Byford, Brett	C	6'3"	300	Sr.	Hartselle, AL	3	Thenarse, Rickey	S	6'0"	190	So.	Los Angeles, CA
62	Christensen, Andy	G	6'3"	300	Jr.	Bennington, NE	4	Watson, Adam	S	6'0"	185	Fr.	Lincoln, NE
75	Haines, Victory	C	6'7"	290	Sr.	Logan, UT	22	West, Anthony	S	6'0"	195	Fr.	San Diego, CA
67	Hickman, Jacob	T	6'4"	285	So.	Bakersfield, CA	9	Wilson, Bryan	S	6'1"	205	Sr.	Granada Hills, CA
61	Huff, Mike	G	6'4"	300	So.	Ralston, NE	23	Young, Corey	DB	6'0"	195	So.	Omaha, NE
73	Jones, D.J.	T	6'5"	310	Fr.	Omaha, NE	Specialists						
76	Murtha, Lydon	T	6'7"	305	Jr.	Hutchinson, MN		POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	
77	Nicks, Carl	T	6'5"	330	Sr.	Salinas, CA	56	Baumgartner, Justin	LS	6'2"	255	Jr.	Cheyenne, WY
69	Picou, Jordan	OL	6'2"	305	Sr.	Rialto, CA	90	Henery, Alex	K	6'2"	170	Fr.	Omaha, NE
70	Slauson, Matt	G	6'5"	335	Jr.	Colorado Springs, CO	29	Lee, Daniel	K	6'0"	195	Jr.	Kansas City, MO
97	Smith, Mike	OL	6'6"	285	Fr.	Las Vegas, NV	55	McBride, Nathan	LS	6'1"	205	So.	Scottsdale, AZ
68	Williams, Keith	G	6'5"	310	Fr.	Florissant, MO	78	McEwen, Robbie	LS	6'0"	235	Jr.	North Platte, NE
							82	O'Leary, T.J.	LS	6'1"	245	Jr.	Omaha, NE
							91	Such, Michael	P	6'2"	205	Fr.	Allen, TX
							97	Titchener, Dan	P	6'0"	200	Jr.	Cheyenne, WY
							37	Wesch, Jake	K	6'1"	200	Jr.	North Bend, NE

Head Coach: Bill Callahan • Record at School: 22-15 (3 years) • Career Record: 22-15 (3 years)

Offensive Coordinator: Shawn Watson • Defensive Coordinator: Kevin Cosgrove • Lincoln, Neb. • Memorial Stadium (80,000)

2006 INDIVIDUAL STATS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.
Zac Taylor	391	233	3,197	26	8

Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Brandon Jackson	188	989	5.3	8
Marlon Lucky	141	728	5.2	6
Cody Glenn	71	370	5.2	8

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Terrence Nunn	42	597	14.2	3
Maurice Purify	34	630	18.5	7
Brandon Jackson	33	313	9.5	2
Marlon Lucky	32	383	12.0	0

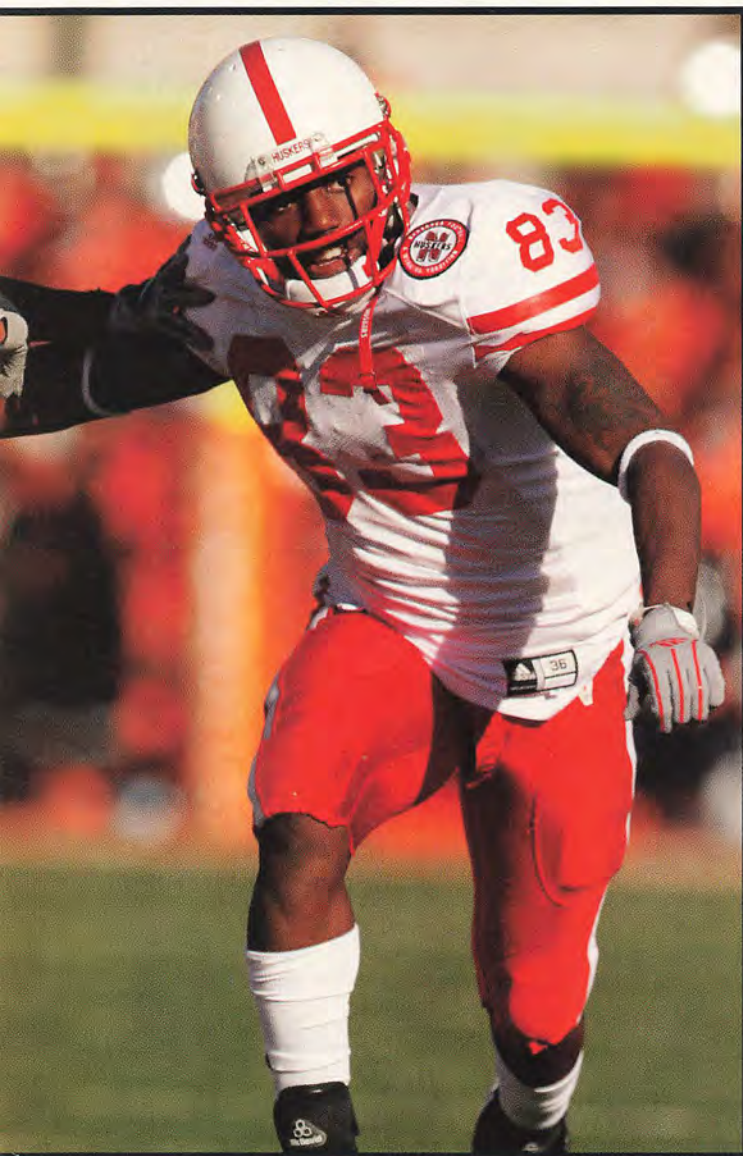
Kicking: Jordan Congdon 5-7 FGs, 55-56 XPs, 70 points

Tackles: Stewart Bradley, 76; Andre Jones, 74

Sacks: Adam Carriker, 7.0

Interceptions: Andrew Shanle, 4

Returning Players in Bold



OUTSIDE THE HUDDLE

Payton praise New Orleans Saints coach Sean Payton, a featured speaker at Nebraska's spring coaching clinic, watched practice the day he spoke. Afterward, he was asked if any players had impressed him. He didn't know names, he said, but the receiver wearing a No. 16 jersey "looked pretty impressive," he said. "It would be good to go home with him today. But I can't." Maurice Purify wears No. 16.

Frazier fan Weak-side linebacker Steve Octavien wears a No. 15 jersey because of his favorite collegiate player growing up, former Cornhusker quarterback Tommie Frazier. Octavien is from Naples, Fla. Frazier came from Bradenton, Fla., to help direct Nebraska to national championships in 1994 and 1995.

Family affair Strong-side linebacker Bo Ruud is following in a family tradition. His brother Barrett, now with the NFL's Tampa Bay Buccaneers, was a Cornhusker linebacker (2001-04), as was his dad Tom (1972-74) and his uncle John Ruud (1978-79). Another uncle, Bob Martin, played defensive end at Nebraska (1973-75), and his great grandfather, Clarence Swanson, played end for the Cornhuskers from 1918-21 and is a member of the College Football Hall of Fame.

Big Suh Sophomore nose tackle Ndamukong Suh goes by "Suh" among teammates and coaches, though coach Bill Callahan sometimes calls him "Nam." His father, Michael, is from Cameroon, and in Cameroon's Ngema tribe, Ndamukong means "House of Spears." The name is pronounced "IN-dom-i-kin," but "I usually go back to my last name when I first meet somebody just because I don't like for my first name to be mispronounced," Suh says. "It's something special within my family. A lot of people on my dad's side of the family have that exact same name."

2006 RESULTS

Record: 9-5 (6-2 Big 12)

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Att.
S. 2	Louisiana Tech	W	49-10	85,181
S. 9	Nicholls State	W	56- 7	84,076
S. 16	at USC	L	10-28	92,000
S. 23	Troy	W	56- 0	84,799
S. 30	Kansas	W (ot)	39-32	85,069
O. 7	at Iowa State	W	28-14	55,338
O. 14	at Kansas State	W	21- 3	50,723
O. 21	Texas	L	20-22	85,187
O. 28	at Oklahoma State	L	29-41	40,108
N. 4	Missouri	W	34-20	85,197
N. 11	at Texas A&M	W	28-27	83,336
N. 24	Colorado	W	37-14	85,800
D. 2	*Oklahoma	L	7-21	80,031
J. 1	#Auburn	L	14-17	66,777

*Big 12 Championship

#Cotton Bowl

Terrence Nunn

2007 RECRUITING

Bill Callahan's fourth recruiting class was solid across the board and addressed pressing needs in the defensive line and the secondary. The Cornhuskers signed seven defensive linemen and six who will begin as defensive backs.

Three of the defensive tackles are junior college transfers, including Shukree Barfield, who was among six members of the class who enrolled for second semester and were able to participate in spring practice. Barfield and junior college teammate Kevin Dixon are expected to be in the mix right away.

As for defensive linemen, "you can't find enough of them," says Callahan. "Those guys, they go off the board quicker and faster than any other position," with the exception of quarterback. The class includes two of those, freshman Patrick Witt and junior college transfer Zac Lee, both of whom enrolled early, though Lee was limited in the spring because of a knee injury. Witt and Lee could be redshirted.

The class includes only three in-state players, the most prominent being wide receiver Niles Paul, the nephew of former Cornhusker I-back Ahman Green. Callahan's recruiting emphasis is reflected in the fact that the class includes seven from Texas, five from Arizona, four from California, three from Nebraska and two from Florida.

Prince Amukamara ATH 6'1" 180 **Glendale, AZ**
Ranked No. 12 prospect in Arizona and No. 56 athlete in country by Rivals.com. Named Player of the Year by the *Arizona Republic*. Rushed for 2,106 yards and 24 TDs in '06.

Shukree Barfield DT 6'4" 310 **Camden, NJ**
Transfer from Garden City (Kan.) CC. Had 54 tackles, five sacks and one INT in '06.

Anthony Blue S 5'10" 170 **Cedar Hill, TX**
Recorded 60 tackles and two INTs in '06. Ranked No. 62 safety in nation by Rivals.com.

Jaivorio Burkes G 6'5" 315 **Phoenix, AZ**
Ranked No. 3 prospect in Arizona and No. 7 offensive guard in the country by Rivals.com.

Quentin Castille RB 6'1" 235 **La Porte, TX**
Ranked No. 2 fullback in the country and No. 36 prospect in Texas by Rivals.com.

Jared Crick DE 6'6" 260 **Cozad, NE**
Ranked No. 4 prospect in Nebraska and No. 45 strongside end in nation by Rivals.com.

Demetrious Davis DT 6'2" 285 **St. Joseph, MO**
Ranked No. 10 prospect in Missouri by Rivals.com.

Kevin Dixon DT 6'3" 295 **Vero Beach, FL**
Transfer from Garden City (Kan.) CC. Ranked No. 40 JUCO prospect by Rivals.com.

Curenski Gilleylen WR 6'0" 210 **Leander, TX**
Had 30 catches for 915 yards, on 30.5 yards per catch, and nine TDs as a senior.

Eriq Hagg ATH 6'1" 195 **Peoria, AZ**
Named first-team Class 5A All-State by the *Arizona Republic*. Ranked No. 15 prospect in Arizona by Rivals.com. Had 49 catches for 920 yards and nine TDs in '06.

RECRUITING BREAKDOWN

By Position	By State
Defensive Linemen	7 Texas
Defensive Backs	4 Arizona
Offensive Linemen	3 California
Running Backs	3 Nebraska
Linebackers	2 Florida
Wide Receivers	2 Louisiana
Quarterbacks	2 Colorado
Athletes	2 Kansas
Tight Ends	1 Missouri
Kickers	1 New Jersey
	1 Virginia

Roy Helu RB 6'0" 220 **Danville, CA**
Rushed for 1,085 yards and 11 TDs as a senior; 1,526 yards and 19 TDs as a junior.

Ryan Hill TE 6'3" 230 **Arvada, CO**
Ranked No. 10 tight end in the country by *SuperPrep* and No. 13 prospect in Colorado by Rivals.com. Had 42 catches for 924 yards and seven TDs as a senior; 44 catches for 900 yards and 15 TDs as a junior. Also averaged 42.8 yards per punt in '06.

Marcel Jones T 6'7" 300 **Phoenix, AZ**
Ranked No. 7 prospect in Arizona by *SuperPrep* and No. 44 tackle by Scout.com.

Adi Kunalic K 6'0" 175 **Fort Worth, TX**
Had 22 kickoffs for touchbacks and two field goals from beyond 50 yards in '06.

Blake Lawrence LB 6'2" 200 **Shawnee Mission, KS**
Named Kansas Gatorade Player of the Year. Had 60 tackles, three INTs and two sacks on defense; threw for 1,329 yards, 15 TDs and three INTs; rushed for 15 TDs in '06. Ranked No. 1 prospect in Kansas and No. 18 outside linebacker by Rivals.com.

Zac Lee QB 6'2" 205 **San Francisco, CA**
Transfer from San Francisco City College. Threw for 3,400 yards and 35 TDs in '06. Ranked No. 10 JUCO prospect by Rivals.com. Father, Bob, played in NFL from 1969-80.

Marcus Mendoza RB 5'10" 175 **Houston, TX**
Ranked No. 12 all-purpose running back in the nation by Rivals.com.

SPOTLIGHT ON...LARRY ASANTE

Safety • 6'1" • 205 • Alexandria, VA

When Larry Asante signed a letter of intent his senior year at Hayfield High School in Alexandria, Va., he planned to play running back at Virginia. And he probably would have except that he didn't achieve the standardized test scores required for freshman eligibility.

With help from his high school coach, he headed to Coffeyville (Kan.) Community College, still planning to play running back. The problem was that Coffeyville had plenty of running backs, "probably about 10" by his count. So that's when he switched to defense. Though he was a free safety, he played "all over the place," lining up sometimes at linebacker and coming off the edge as a pass rusher.

He quickly established a reputation for being a hard hitter, something he has always been, going back to when he played in youth leagues and even as a running back. "You can't just one day wake up and flip the switch," he says. "You have to have the stuff from a young age."

Terrence Moore DT 6'3" 275 **New Orleans, LA**
Ranked No. 22 prospect in Louisiana by Rivals.com. Recorded 14 sacks as a senior.

Niles Paul WR 6'1" 210 **Omaha, NE**
Ranked No. 1 prospect in Nebraska and No. 10 receiver in the country by Rivals.com. Won Class A state track titles in 110 and 300 meter hurdles. Uncle, Ahman Green, was a member of three national championship teams with the Huskers from 1994-97.

Aaron Schulte T 6'6" 320 **Norfolk, NE**
Ranked No. 9 prospect in Nebraska by Rivals.com.

Austin Stafford LB 6'2" 205 **Hayward, CA**
Ranked No. 10 weakside linebacker in the nation by Scout.com.

Shawn Sullivan CB 5'10" 190 **Brenham, TX**
Ranked No. 89 prospect in Texas by the *Dallas Morning News*.

Joseph Townsend DT 6'3" 285 **San Jose, CA**
Transfer from Foothill (Calif.) CC. Ranked No. 40 JUCO prospect by Rivals.com.

Latravis Washington S 6'3" 210 **Bradenton, FL**
Ranked No. 39 safety in the nation and No. 65 prospect in Florida by Rivals.com.

Patrick Witt QB 6'4" 215 **Wylie, TX**
Ranked No. 18 pro-style quarterback in country by Rivals.com.

William Yancy DE 6'4" 230 **Glendale, AZ**
Ranked No. 4 prospect in Arizona and No. 19 strongside end in nation by Rivals.com.

talent **Huskers** GRAB

Jucos, Transfers Find Lincoln to their Liking

by Mike Babcock

When Andre Jones and Maurice Purify met on a recruiting visit to Nebraska, they acknowledged one another with a wary nod and a perfunctory "Hey, what's up?"

"There wasn't much love, really," Jones says with a smile.

They had met three times previously, battled really, on a football field. Jones was a cornerback at Fresno City College, Purify a wide receiver at rival City College of San Francisco. And in those three games, all of which Purify's team won decisively, they developed a mutual competitive hatred.

"Man, it was intense," says Jones. "You don't want to know the words that were said out there."

Neither is averse to exchanging words with an opponent.

"It's just competitive. That's all it is," Purify says.

In any case, neither imagined they would be teammates one day. At first, Jones didn't even want to be in the same group of recruits visiting Nebraska. How could that happen?

As it turned out, however, both are easy-going off the field, gregarious, and more important, both were looking for a Division I program with a tradition of success. Nebraska offered that, despite a slow slide nationally following Tom Osborne's decision to retire after the 1997 season.

The Cornhuskers won three national championships in Osborne's final four seasons as coach and were a combined 60-3 in his final five seasons. Although Frank Solich — Osborne's hand-picked successor — produced a 58-19 record over six seasons, the program dropped from the Top 10, prompting Athletic Director Steve Pederson to replace him, as it turned out, with Bill Callahan.

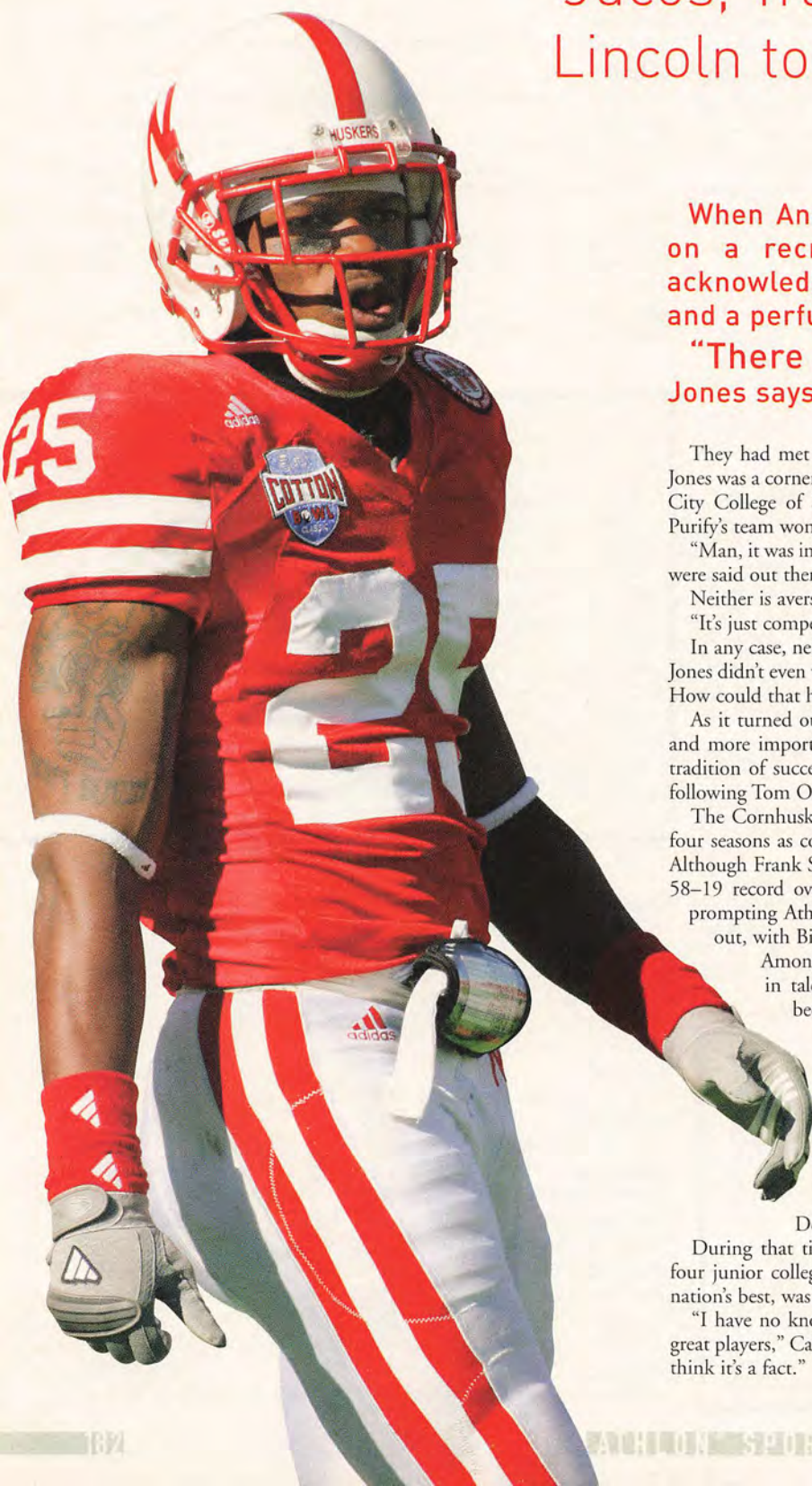
Among the reasons for the slide, as Pederson saw it, was a decline in talent, a recruiting issue that had to be addressed quickly because of the unique demands on a program in a low-population state.

Jones and Purify have been part of the talent upgrade, which has included 26 other junior college players in Callahan's four recruiting classes — and 24 total in his last three.

By comparison, Nebraska recruited only 27 junior college players in the 20 years prior to Callahan's arrival, and only 49 since 1973, when Osborne succeeded Bob Devaney as coach.

During that time, no Cornhusker recruiting class included more than four junior college transfers. So Callahan's 2005 class, ranked among the nation's best, was notable. It included a dozen.

"I have no knock on them whatsoever. I don't discriminate against any great players," Callahan said on Signing Day. "I don't think it's a trend. I just think it's a fact."



It's a fact, in part, because of more stringent academic eligibility requirements, although academics have always been a factor for jucos. Mike Rozier, the best-known junior college transfer in Nebraska history, spent one season at Coffeyville (Kan.) Community College for that reason.

Nebraska sent him there, and he remained committed to the Cornhuskers, arriving in 1981 and becoming the school's career-rushing leader, as well as its second Heisman Trophy winner.

Purify, who didn't decide between football and basketball until his second year at San Francisco City College, didn't qualify academically out of high school in Eureka, Calif., either. He could have gone to a non-Division I school but opted for junior college, where "I made a name for myself," he says.

"It's like a stepping stone. You never know how much I would have progressed if I had jumped straight into (a four-year) college. Some people come straight to college and lose their confidence. They're not starting and they're getting a bad attitude from the beginning."

For Purify, the toughest part of his junior college experience was not having a scholarship. The same was true for Jones, who was recruited to Kentucky out of high school in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., but transferred to Fresno City College after his freshman year. His transfer was a result of academic problems and the frustration of a broken leg and medical redshirt. He wanted a change of scenery and a new start.

He did work-study at Fresno City College, a commuter school without dorms, to pay his tuition and bills. He and his teammates lived as inexpensively as possible, surviving on Ramen noodles. "It was a beast, man," he says. "When I came here it was like heaven. I'm on scholarship. I'm eating good."

And, like many of the other junior college players Callahan has recruited, he's making a significant contribution to what Cornhusker fans hope is a climb back to national prominence. Jones and Purify are among five junior college transfers expected to start this season. The others are offensive left tackle Carl Nicks, weak-side linebacker Steve Octavien and strong safety Larry Asante.

The projected two-deeps include at least six other junior college transfers, among them cornerback Zack Bowman, who is trying to come back from a ruptured patellar tendon during spring practice.

Bowman became a starter midway through the 2005 season after transferring from New Mexico Military Institute, but he missed last season after injuring the other knee. That injury provided Jones with the opportunity to earn a Blackshirt and start in his first season at Nebraska.

Bowman picked up Jones at the airport when he arrived in the summer, and the two quickly bonded. They played the same position. They came from military families, which meant constantly moving around while growing up. And, of course, they had a shared experience, playing in junior colleges.

"We (transfers) kind of stick together," says Nicks, who played one season at New Mexico State before transferring to Hartnell Junior College near his home in Salinas, Calif.

For him, junior college was a place he could sort things out. He hadn't been happy at New Mexico State, where he played defensive tackle.

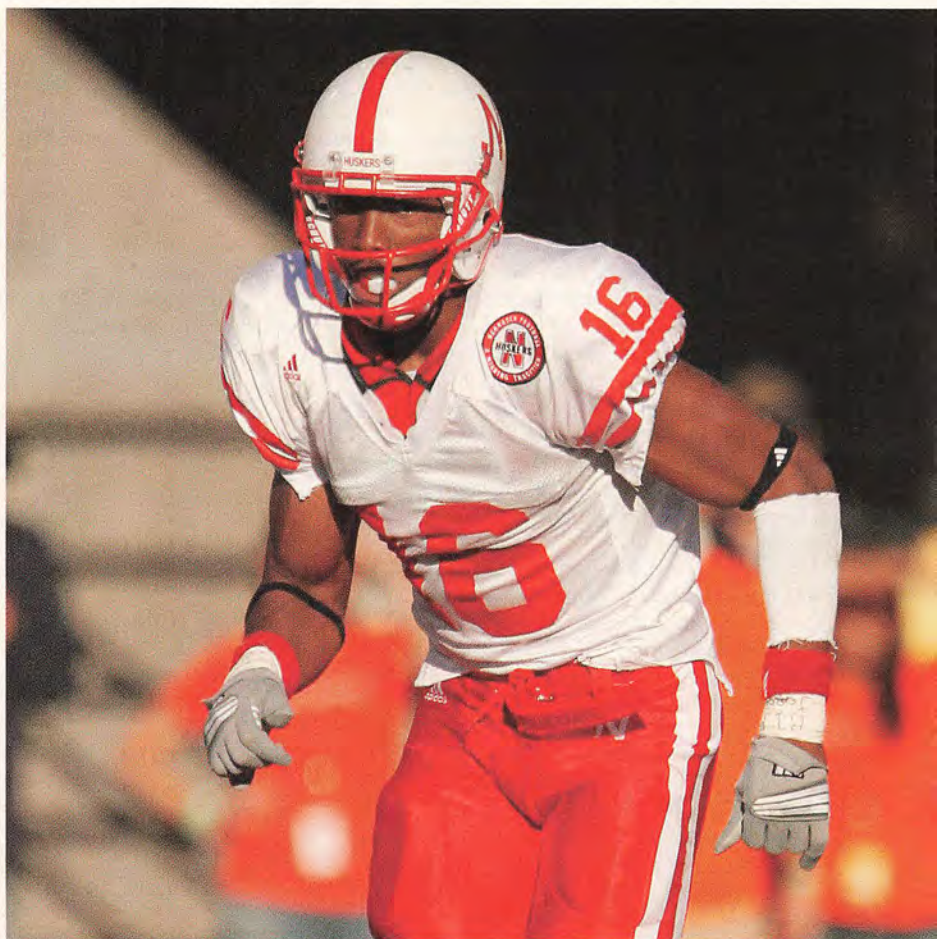
"I didn't really know what I wanted to do," he says. "I figured I would I have one year to play junior college and see where that would take me."

It took him to Nebraska, where he lives with Purify and Brandon Johnson, a defensive tackle transfer from Compton (Calif.) Community College — after spending one unhappy season at Graceland College.

Johnson visited Nebraska at the same time as Jones and Purify. He and Jones made oral commitments to the Cornhuskers right away. Purify waited, "talking about, 'I'm going to wait for Cal or USC.'" Jones says. "I'm like, 'You'd better come on over here, stop tripping, man.'"

When Purify finally committed, Jones was excited. Their competitive hatred was gone.

"We kind of started talking, 'Hey, man, you're kind of cool,'" he says. "We're straight now."



Jones (opposite) and Purify (above) represent a new phase in Nebraska recruiting, one that welcomes jucos and transfers in unprecedented numbers.

CONFERENCE USA

PREVIEW



In a league that has spawned its share of celebrated passing quarterbacks — from Louisville's Chris Redman to Houston's Kevin Kolb — Southern Miss has enjoyed success without strong-armed tactics. Yes, Brett Favre played for the Golden Eagles, but it was in the late 1980s and early '90s, before the formation of Conference USA.

Southern Miss coach Jeff Bower has won the old-fashioned way, with a traditionally effective running game and a strong defense. This year should be no different as Bower aims for his 14th straight winning season.

The Golden Eagles are the favorites to win Conference USA because of what certainly will be the league's strongest running attack and one of the best in the country. Damion Fletcher, who rushed for 1,388 yards last year as a freshman, returns. He led the nation's true freshman running backs with an average of 106.7 yards per game. He'll be joined in the backfield by sophomore Tory Harrison and Antwain Easterling, one of the nation's top running back recruits. Easterling rushed for 1,800 yards and 33 touchdowns for Miami Northwestern and was considered by some recruiting analysts to be a top 5 back nationally. Nebraska and Rutgers were among the schools competing for his services.

Always strong on defense, the Golden Eagles ranked first in C-USA in scoring defense a year ago — the only team to allow opponents fewer than 20 points per game — and finished second in rushing, passing and total defense.

Another solid defensive team, Tulsa, is the favorite to win the West Division, despite losing head coach Steve Kragthorpe to the Big East. Louisville hired Kragthorpe, and Tulsa immediately turned to its former defensive coordinator, Todd Graham.

Graham coached one season at Rice and led the Owls to their first bowl game in 45 years, but he couldn't pass up the opportunity to return to Tulsa. The Golden Hurricane led C-USA in total defense last season with a group Graham had molded before leaving for Rice.

And at Tulsa, Graham will have an offense directed by senior quarterback Paul Smith, second on the school's career total offense chart with 6,418 yards. Smith is a league Offensive

Player of the Year candidate, known more for his solid decision-making than gaudy numbers.

Houston loses record-setting quarterback Kevin Kolb, but the Cougars will still be a factor. Coach Art Briles probably won't settle on a quarterback until the fall, but the offense is well-stocked and should continue to put points on the board. The key for the Cougs will be on defense.

A resurgent SMU will have to be dealt with as well. The Mustangs have one of the league's top quarterbacks in Justin Willis, who passed for a school-record 26 touchdowns, and highly regarded running back DeMyron Martin.

Graham is no longer in charge, but Rice will still challenge in the West. The Owls have a rising star in Jarett Dillard, a junior receiver. Dillard enters the season having caught TD passes in 15 straight games. He set a school and C-USA single-season record for TD receptions with 21 and had a league-best 91 grabs.

PREDICTED ORDER OF FINISH

EAST

1. SOUTHERN MISS
2. UCF
3. MARSHALL
4. EAST CAROLINA
5. MEMPHIS

WEST

1. TULSA
2. HOUSTON
3. SMU
4. RICE
5. UTEP
6. TULANE



Jeff Bower

C-USA NOTEBOOK »

MAGIC IN ORLANDO

UCF begins play in its new on-campus stadium this fall, opening Sept. 15 on ESPN against national power Texas. The 45,000-seat facility, which cost an estimated \$47 million, is part of a \$60 million project that includes financing costs, reserve requirements, infrastructure, roads, parking and practice fields for soccer, football and baseball. Construction and operation of Bright House Networks Stadium will be funded through naming rights, revenues from suites and club seat leases, ticket and concessions sales, donations, corporate sponsorships and advertising. No public money or tuition will be used. The university has raised about \$29 million in private donations for the stadium, including Bright House Networks naming rights support. The stadium's 25 suites have been sold out.

BACK IN THE FOLD

Keith Patterson couldn't stay away. An assistant to Steve Kragthorpe at Tulsa last season, he departed for Louisville when Kragthorpe was named the University of Louisville coach after last season. But Patterson couldn't resist an offer from new Tulsa coach Todd Graham to return. Patterson spent four years on the Tulsa coaching staff — the first

Chris Covatta

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CONFERENCE USA PREVIEW

C-USA NOTEBOOK, CONT. »

three as then-defensive coordinator Graham's linebackers coach. Patterson was promoted to Tulsa's defensive coordinator in 2006 when Graham accepted the head coaching job at Rice. Graham asked him to return to Tulsa — after only two months at Louisville — to become co-defensive coordinator and linebackers coach.

ROUSE IN THE HOUSE

In Mike Price's relative short tenure at UTEP, he's proven adept at attracting outstanding talent at receiver. Although Price lost standout Johnnie Lee Higgins, he'll welcome the addition this fall of Florida State transfer Fred Rouse, who was considered one of the nation's top prep receivers coming out of Lincoln High in Tallahassee, Fla., three years ago. Rouse, 6'3" and 195 pounds, played 11 games for Florida State in 2005 before encountering personal problems and leaving FSU. "I made some mistakes in the past," Rouse said as UTEP opened spring practice. "But I'm ready to get back. It feels great. I'm a little rusty from taking a year off, but I'm looking forward to showing people I'm one of the top wide receivers in the country."

NEW FACES

Three new coaches enter the league this season, with David Bailiff taking over at Rice, former UCLA coach Bob Toledo at Tulane and ex-University of Georgia coordinator Neil Callaway at UAB. Todd Graham left Rice after one season to return to Tulsa as head coach.

Bailiff, 48, spent the past three seasons at Texas State in San Marcos, Texas, and guided the Bobcats to their first Southland Conference title and the semifinals of the NCAA Division I-AA playoffs in 2005. He is a former defensive coordinator at TCU. Toledo, 60, coached UCLA from 1996-02 and spent last season at New Mexico as the Lobos' offensive coordinator. Callaway spent the past six seasons as Georgia's offensive coordinator and handled the same duties at Houston from 1993-96.

"I think all jobs are tough. It's all relative. Yes, it's a tough job, particularly given the fact that Katrina struck and set the program and the city back. But if you look around and you see the effort that the people are making to get the city back and to get the university back, I think it's possible to come here and win football games."

— New Tulane coach Bob Toledo on the challenges of the job with the school's high academic standards and the aftermath of Katrina.

MARKED MAN

There's little doubt that Rice's Jarett Dillard will draw plenty of attention this season. Last year, as a sophomore, Dillard earned consensus second-team All-America honors for a record-breaking season. He led the nation, and set a C-USA record, with 21 receiving touchdowns. His 91 receptions tied for third nationally. Dillard will enter this season having had at least one touchdown reception in 15 straight games, three shy of the NCAA mark set by former Pittsburgh star Larry Fitzgerald. His 26 career touchdowns in two seasons ranked ninth in NCAA history.

NO REPEAT FEAT

Winning back-to-back titles in Conference USA has proven to be a challenge. When Houston won the 2006 C-USA title, it represented the sixth different champion since 2002. Having several schools depart for different conferences has added to the constant change of scenery at the top. Former C-USA members TCU and Cincinnati shared the title in 2002, Southern Miss won in '03, former member Louisville won in 2004 before departing for the Big East and Tulsa won in '05.

HIGH HONOR

SMU may have barely missed on a coveted bowl trip in 2006 after going 6-6, but the Mustangs can be proud of how they finished in another category. SMU accepted the American Football Coaches Association's 2006 Academic Achievement Award at the AFCA's annual meeting. The football program recorded a 100 percent graduation rate when all members of its freshman class of 2000-01 earned degrees. The honor was the first for the school since the award's inception in 1981. SMU has earned honorable mention status 11 times.

KEY GAMES

SEPT. 1 OLE MISS AT MEMPHIS

This game is a traditional non-conference opener for the Tigers. A win allows Conference USA to puff out its chest against a BCS opponent.

SEPT. 8 NORTH CAROLINA AT EAST CAROLINA

An improving East Carolina program under coach Skip Holtz gets an opportunity to record an early season win over a school from a BCS conference.

SEPT. 22 SMU AT TCU

While TCU isn't in a BCS conference, C-USA schools relish a chance to knock off a strong Horned Frog program that bolted C-USA for the Mountain West.

OCT. 6 UCF AT EAST CAROLINA

As it continues to rebuild and challenge Southern Miss in the East Division, ECU must win home games like this one against UCF, which slipped last year after winning the division in 2005.

OCT. 13 SMU AT SOUTHERN MISS

SMU, led by quarterback and 2006 league Freshman of the Year Justin Willis, will meet the C-USA favorite.

OCT. 20 NC STATE AT EAST CAROLINA

NC State dropped a home game to C-USA member Southern Miss last year. ECU gets its second shot at an ACC rival, with a win boosting Skip Holtz's recruiting efforts in-state.

NOV. 10 MEMPHIS AT SOUTHERN MISS

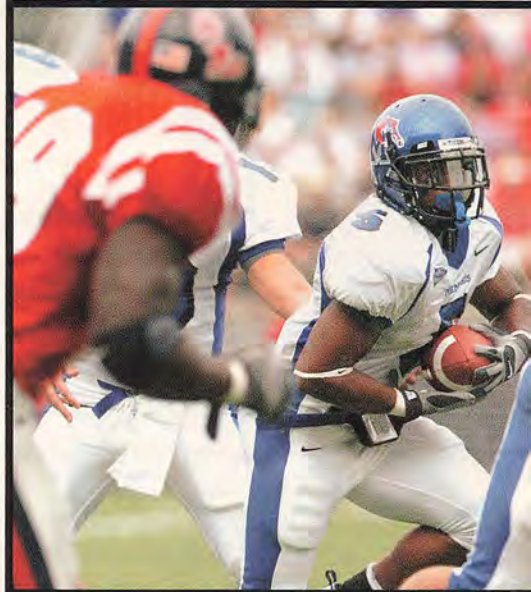
Memphis hasn't fared well against Southern Miss in games played in Hattiesburg over the past 20 years, but the Tigers won the last time they played at M.M. Roberts Stadium in 2005.

NOV. 17 SOUTHERN MISS AT UTEP

Southern Miss' talented running game will encounter an obstacle in UTEP at the Sun Bowl. Mike Price's club will counter with a pass-oriented approach, led by receiver Fred Rouse, a Florida State transfer.

NOV. 24 TULSA AT RICE

This could be one of the marquee games in the league in 2007. Tulsa coach Todd Graham will lead the Golden Hurricane against the team he coached last year to its first bowl in 45 years. It's conceivable the game could determine the West Division champion.



Mike Strasinger

CONFERENCE USA

PREVIEW

2007 ATHLON PRESEASON ALL-C-USA TEAM »



Paul Smith



Albert McClellan

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

QB PAUL SMITH

6'2" 193 SR. TULSA

Top returning QB passed for 2,727 yards and 15 TDs.

RB DAMION FLETCHER

5'10" 175 SO. SOUTHERN MISS

Rushed for 1,388 yards and 11 TDs as a true freshman.

RB KEVIN SMITH

6'1" 211 JR. UCF

Averaged 103.8 yards per game, ranked third in C-USA.

WR DONNIE AVERY

5'11" 190 SR. HOUSTON

Averaged 14.9 yards per catch with five touchdowns.

WR JARETT DILLARD

5'11" 180 JR. RICE

Led nation with 21 touchdown receptions, a C-USA record.

TE SHAWN NELSON

6'5" 242 JR. SOUTHERN MISS

Paced C-USA tight ends with 36 catches.

C DOUG LEGURSKY

6'3" 311 SR. MARSHALL

Did not allow a sack in '06; has 23 straight starts.

OL JEFF AKEROYD

6'3" 295 SR. HOUSTON

Second-team all-conference in 2006.

OL CHRIS CLARK

6'5" 295 SR. SOUTHERN MISS

Part of a line that led C-USA in rushing (169.9).

OL BRANDON PEARCE

6'6" 280 JR. MEMPHIS

Helped Memphis O-line allow a league-low 14 sacks.

OL KYLE SMITH

6'2" 301 SR. UCF

An honorable mention all-league pick in '06.

SPECIALISTS

K BEN BELL

5'11" 175 JR. HOUSTON

His 93 points were tops among C-USA kickers in '06.

KR MICHAEL GRANDBERRY

5'10" 171 JR. MEMPHIS

Averaged 24.6 yards on 21 returns.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE

DL MARCUS HANDS

6'5" 277 JR. EAST CAROLINA

Had 30 tackles and two fumble recoveries.

DL PHILLIP HUNT

6'2" 250 JR. HOUSTON

Led team with 12 tackles for a loss and 8 sacks.

DL ALBERT MCCLELLAN

6'2" 225 JR. MARSHALL

Had 11.5 sacks, 19 tackles for a loss and four forced fumbles in '06.

DL MARTAVIUS PRINCE

6'3" 295 SR. SOUTHERN MISS

Fifteen tackles for a loss led team; also had three sacks.

LB NELSON COLEMAN

6'2" 235 SR. TULSA

His 98 tackles paced Tulsa in '06; also had five tackles for a loss.

LB GERALD MCRATH

6'3" 213 SO. SOUTHERN MISS

Had 104 tackles, 11 tackles for a loss and two forced fumbles.

LB BRIAN RAINES

6'1" 220 JR. RICE

League's leading returning tackler with 118.

CB JOE BURNETT

5'11" 183 JR. UCF

Had career-high 10 tackles vs. national champ Florida.

CB KENNETH FONTENETTE

6'0" 180 JR. HOUSTON

Broke up 13 passes in 2006 with 72 tackles.

S QUINTIN DEMPS

6'1" 205 SR. UTEP

Led Miners with three interceptions, two fumble recoveries.

S BRANDON SUMRALL

5'11" 197 SR. SOUTHERN MISS

His three forced fumbles led Golden Eagles.

P HOMAS MORSTEAD

6'5" 215 JR. SMU

Led league with a 43.8-yard average on 50 punts.

PR EMMANUEL SPANN

5'11" 179 JR. MARSHALL

Averaged 12 yards per return to rank second in league.

2006 C-USA BOWL RESULTS

NEW ORLEANS BOWL DEC. 22 NEW ORLEANS, LA.: TROY 41, RICE 17 <> PAPAJOHNS.COM BOWL DEC. 23 BIRMINGHAM, ALA.: SOUTH FLORIDA 24, EAST CAROLINA 7

ARMED FORCES BOWL DEC. 23 FORT WORTH, TEXAS: UTAH 25, TULSA 13 <> LIBERTY BOWL DEC. 29 MEMPHIS, TENN.: SOUTH CAROLINA 44, HOUSTON 36

GMAC BOWL JAN. 7 MOBILE, ALA.: SOUTHERN MISS 28, OHIO 7

SECOND-TEAM OFFENSE

QB	Chase Clement	6'1"	190	Jr.	Rice
RB	Anthony Alridge	5'9"	175	Sr.	Houston
RB	Matt Forte	6'2"	225	Sr.	Tulane
WR	Duke Calhoun	6'4"	185	So.	Memphis
WR	Emmanuel Sanders	6'1"	170	So.	SMU
TE	Cody Slate	6'4"	212	So.	Marshall
C	Michael Parenton	6'3"	304	Jr.	Tulane
OL	Robby Heos	6'4"	300	Sr.	Rice
OL	Dustin Dickinson	6'3"	290	Sr.	Houston
OL	Patrick Brown	6'5"	290	Jr.	UCF
OL	Ryan McKee	6'6"	275	Jr.	Southern Miss

SECOND-TEAM DEFENSE

DL	Antonio Harris	6'3"	285	Sr.	Tulane
DL	Robert Henderson	6'3"	280	Sr.	Southern Miss
DL	Zach Slate	6'5"	227	Jr.	East Carolina
DL	Greg Terrell	6'4"	230	So.	Memphis
LB	Quentin Cotton	6'2"	224	Jr.	East Carolina
LB	Chris Chamberlain	6'2"	225	Sr.	Tulsa
LB	Joe Henderson	6'2"	210	Jr.	UAB
CB	Brandon King	5'9"	180	Jr.	Rice
CB	Travis Williams	5'10"	182	Sr.	East Carolina
S	Will Dunbar	6'1"	195	Sr.	UAB
S	Sha'reff Rashad	6-0"	197	Jr.	UCF

SPECIALISTS

K	Matt Reagan	6'1"	210	So.	Memphis
P	Britt Barefoot	6'0"	180	Jr.	Southern Miss
KR	Chris Johnson	5'11"	200	Sr.	East Carolina
PR	Joe Burnett	5'11"	183	Jr.	UCF

THIRD-TEAM OFFENSE"

QB	Martin Hankins	6'2"	205	Sr.	Memphis
RB	Joseph Doss	5'9"	196	Sr.	Memphis
RB	Courtney Tennial	5'9"	220	Sr.	Tulsa
WR	Joel Armstrong	5'11"	190	Sr.	Rice
WR	Rocky Ross	6'2"	198	Jr.	UCF
TE	Davon Drew	6'4"	247	Jr.	East Carolina
C	Robby Felix	6'3"	295	Jr.	UTEP
OL	Lute Barber	6'7"	300	Sr.	Rice
OL	Kenard Burley	6'5"	310	Sr.	SMU
OL	Jake Seitz	6'2"	300	So.	UAB
OL	Andy Smith	6'4"	307	Sr.	Memphis

THIRD-TEAM DEFENSE

DL	George Chukwu	6'2"	300	Sr.	Rice
DL	Leger Douzable	6'4"	305	Sr.	UCF
DL	Moton Hopkins	6'3"	275	Jr.	Tulsa
DL	Mark Robinson	6'3"	286	Sr.	East Carolina
LB	Pierre Bell	6'2"	238	Jr.	East Carolina
LB	Joe Goosby	6'1"	218	Sr.	Tulane
LB	Alain Karatepeyan	6'1"	250	Sr.	Tulsa
CB	Josh Ferguson	5'9"	180	Sr.	UTEP
CB	Ja'Corey Shepherd	5'11"	180	Jr.	Rice
S	Brandon Patterson	6'1"	190	Jr.	Memphis
S	LeVance Richmond	5'11"	195	Sr.	Southern Miss

SPECIALISTS

K	Jarod Tracy	6'0"	165	Jr.	Tulsa
P	Swayze Waters	6'0"	170	Jr.	UAB
KR	Anthony Alridge	5'9"	175	Sr.	Houston
PR	Fred Smith	5'8"	188	Sr.	Tulane

CONFERENCE USA PREVIEW

BIG SHOES TO FILL »

BRANDIS DEW, QB, UTEP

If Dew wins the starting job, he'll have some huge numbers to fill. He'll be replacing Jordan Palmer, UTEP's career passing and total offense leader. Palmer, brother of NFL quarterback Carson Palmer, passed for 11,084 yards and accounted for 11,041 total yards. Palmer also threw 88 touchdown passes. Dew, 6'5" and 265 pounds, tossed 42 touchdowns as a senior at Hemet (Calif.) High in 2004.

BLAKE JOSEPH, QB, HOUSTON

And if Joseph wins the starting job, he'll have even bigger numbers to fill. He'll be replacing Kevin Kolb, the most prolific passer in conference history and the league's Offensive Player of the Year in 2006. Kolb passed for 12,964 yards from 2003-06, breaking Chris Redman's mark of 12,541 set from 1996-99. Joseph, 6'1" and 195 pounds, was recruited by Kansas, TCU and Texas Tech out of Bryan (Texas) High.

TODD GRAHAM, COACH, TULSA

After a Cinderella season at Rice, Graham returns to Tulsa to pick up where Steve Kragthorpe left off. Graham directed Rice to its first bowl game since the 1961 Bluebonnet Bowl in his only season at the school before accepting an offer to return to Tulsa and replace Kragthorpe. Tulsa played in three bowl games in four seasons under Kragthorpe.

CHUBB SMALL, RB, MARSHALL

Small is a candidate to replace Ahmad Bradshaw, who rushed for 1,523 yards and 19 touchdowns to easily win the league rushing crown. He averaged 6.1 yards per carry. Small had 42 carries for 193 yards in a reserve role. The Thundering Herd also signed Jo Jo Cox in the spring. Cox (5'9", 213) spent last season at Fork Union Military, rushing for 800 yards and eight touchdowns in six games.

2006 C-USA STANDINGS

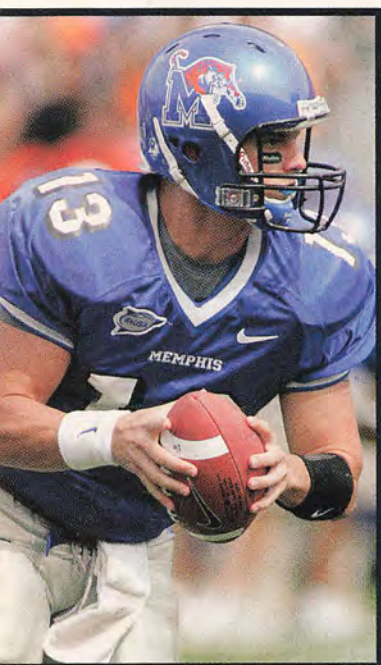
East	C-USA	Overall
SOUTHERN MISS	6-2	9-5
EAST CAROLINA	5-3	7-6
MARSHALL	4-4	5-7
UCF	3-5	4-8
UAB	2-6	3-9
MEMPHIS	1-7	2-10
West	C-USA	Overall
HOUSTON	7-1	10-4
RICE	6-2	7-6
TULSA	5-3	8-5
SMU	4-4	6-6
UTEP	3-5	5-7
TULANE	2-6	4-8

CONFERENCE USA PREVIEW

THEY SAID IT »

"You hear a guy say he's committed to you and he signed an extension and says he wants to be here. Sure enough, the next day that's not the case. It is what it is. We can't worry about it. We've just got to look forward to the future."

— Rice quarterback Chase Clement upon learning coach Todd Graham had left after one season with the Owls to take the Tulsa job.



Martin Hankins

2007 UNIT RANKINGS

	QB	RB	WR/TE	OL	DL	LB	DB
EAST CAROLINA	10	12	5	11	10	3	7
HOUSTON	11	4	1	2	6	7	9
MARSHALL	7	8	11	3	2	9	4
MEMPHIS	5	5	4	6	4	6	6
RICE	3	11	3	9	9	4	11
SMU	2	6	7	7	3	10	5
SOUTHERN MISS	4	1	6	1	1	2	2
TULANE	12	10	9	12	8	5	12
TULSA	1	3	8	4	7	1	3
UAB	9	9	12	8	5	7	8
UCF	6	2	10	5	11	12	10
UTEP	8	7	2	10	12	11	1

C-USA RETURNING CONFERENCE LEADERS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Int.	Pct.	Yds.	TD	Avg/G
Paul Smith, Tulsa	350	233	9	66.6	2,727	15	209.8
Martin Hankins, Memphis	377	226	13	59.9	2,550	18	212.5
Justin Willis, SMU	270	182	6	67.4	2,047	26	186.1
Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Avg/G	Long	
Damion Fletcher, Southern Miss	276	1,388	5.0	11	106.8	36	
Kevin Smith, UCF	206	934	4.5	7	103.8	34	
Matt Forte, Tulane	163	859	5.3	8	95.4	64	
Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Avg/G	Long	
Jarett Dillard, Rice	91	1,247	13.7	21	95.9	65	
Donnie Avery, Houston	57	852	14.9	5	60.9	56	

Tackles: Brian Raines, Rice (118); Gerald McRath, Southern Miss (104)

Sacks: Albert McClellan, Marshall (11.5); Phillip Hunt, Houston (8.0)

2006 C-USA TEAM STATS & RANKINGS

	Offense				Defense			
	Score	Rush	Pass	Total	Score	Rush	Pass	Total
East Carolina	21.5 (9)	115.5 (9)	232.6 (5)	348.2 (6)	20.8 (3)	145.2 (6)	184.2 (3)	329.3 (3)
Houston	33.0 (1)	168.3 (2)	277.8 (2)	446.1 (1)	23.5 (4)	143.4 (5)	208.0 (4)	351.4 (4)
Marshall	25.9 (6)	167.1 (3)	187.2 (10)	354.3 (5)	29.2 (8)	140.1 (4)	250.8 (12)	390.9 (7)
Memphis	23.4 (8)	111.7 (10)	224.6 (7)	336.2 (9)	30.4 (9)	178.0 (11)	230.7 (7)	408.7 (11)
Rice	26.9 (5)	131.0 (6)	214.1 (8)	345.1 (7)	33.2 (11)	187.8 (12)	226.6 (6)	414.5 (12)
SMU	27.1 (4)	125.2 (8)	194.2 (9)	319.5 (11)	24.5 (5)	107.5 (1)	245.8 (9)	353.3 (5)
Southern Miss	25.4 (7)	169.9 (1)	161.2 (12)	331.1 (10)	18.6 (1)	127.8 (2)	180.3 (2)	308.1 (2)
Tulane	18.7 (12)	92.2 (11)	246.5 (3)	338.7 (8)	33.3 (12)	149.5 (9)	250.2 (11)	399.7 (10)
Tulsa	27.7 (2)	162.1 (4)	226.5 (6)	388.5 (2)	20.2 (2)	138.2 (3)	158.7 (1)	296.8 (1)
UAB	18.8 (11)	125.6 (7)	184.5 (11)	310.1 (12)	24.8 (6)	146.8 (7)	212.5 (5)	359.2 (6)
UCF	19.3 (10)	139.4 (5)	233.8 (4)	373.2 (3)	28.8 (7)	149.2 (8)	248.8 (10)	398.1 (9)
UTEP	27.3 (3)	58.4 (12)	312.0 (1)	370.4 (4)	31.2 (10)	152.4 (10)	242.5 (8)	394.9 (8)



Models shown with available accessories.

Since when does cruising have to be a cruise?

A cruiser is a cruiser, right? At Suzuki, we disagree. But so you don't have to take our word for it, we picked three friends, George, Tracy and Jeff, for the ride of a lifetime on Suzuki Boulevard cruisers from D.C. to Daytona. George's response to his first ride on the M109R: "The power is incredible!" He should know. He rides track days on a GSX-R1000. Jeff wired into other GSX-R influences right away: "What I find is a lot of the same stuff: radial-mounted brakes, inverted fork and fuel injection." Jeff feels the M109R delivers handling as impressive as its power: "The bike's awesome. It turns in pretty quick, especially with that wide 240 rear tire." With exceptional power, handling and braking, the M109R has all the ingredients needed to make it, in George's words, "...as bad as you want it to be." And middleweight riders take note: The M50 has all the style in a more compact package. Check them out at your Suzuki dealer and find out why Jeff says, "The GSX-R technology on the M109R takes cruising to a whole new level." www.suzukicycles.com/rideofalifetime.

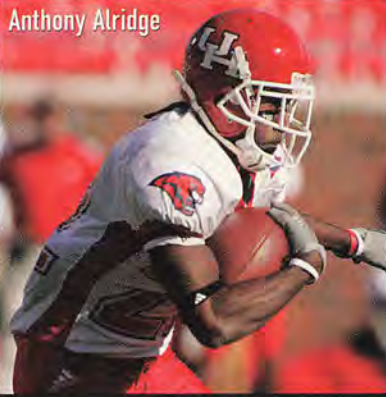


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A QUICK LOOK AT THE COUGARS

The Cougars have the talent to make it back to the Conference USA title game but won't have last year's outrageously cushy schedule — seven home games and eight within the city limits — to facilitate the jelling process. Opening at Oregon will be a brutal baptism for the new quarterback, whoever that may be, and a severe test for the new defensive alignment. The team's potential will be better-evaluated after a later trip to Alabama. In conference, the Cougars should be fine — C-USA's oddball scheduling has them avoiding Southern Miss (you'd think the conference would want to play up this rivalry, which is beginning to boil), and a late-season trip to Western Division challenger Tulsa as the only real challenge. And they can ill-afford that one head-scratching, momentum-killing meltdown game — usually at home — they seem to endure every season (see last year's home loss to Louisiana-Lafayette for reference. And SMU the year before. And Rice the year before that ... well, you get the picture). One major obstacle could be injuries. While they have plenty of front-line talent, the Cougars lack depth, especially on the offensive and defensive lines. But if they can stay healthy, the Cougars could ride the snaky moves of **Anthony Alridge** to another big season.

Anthony Alridge



2007 SCHEDULE

S. 1	at Oregon	L
S. 15	at Tulane	W
S. 22	Colorado State	W
S. 29	East Carolina	W
O. 6	at Alabama	L
O. 13	Rice	W
O. 20	at UAB	W
O. 27	at UTEP	W
N. 4	SMU	W
N. 10	at Tulsa	*
N. 17	Marshall	W
N. 24	Texas Southern	W

*Games in **bold** represent games crucial to the season. W or L indicates a projected win or loss

Layne Murdoch Jr.

The Cougars took a huge step forward last season — a leap actually — by winning 10 games and the Conference USA championship. The hard part now is doing it again, maintaining that momentum — and doing it without quarterback Kevin Kolb, a four-year starter and one of the greatest players in school history.

But the Cougars are taking a simple approach — no Kolb, no problem.

"I don't think our goals will differ from the ones we've had for the last four years," coach Art Briles says. "Our goals are to win the West, win a conference championship, be the at-large (candidate) in a BCS bowl or be in the Liberty Bowl, and then win a bowl game. That's not going to change."

The Cougars return more than enough talent to keep them in the hunt for another division title, but they obviously need to find a competent quarterback replacement, especially since Kolb had been running Briles' pass-happy, yard-eating offense since high school.

But for a change, the defense will take center stage. The defense, which will shift between a 3-4 and a 4-2-5, should be one of Conference USA's better units. And it had better be since it will have to carry the Cougars through the first few games — at least until they find someone to replace Kolb.

Quarterbacks Entering spring ball, the battle was between sophomore Blake Joseph and redshirt freshman Case Keenum, with Joseph getting the early nod. Joseph has an outrageously strong arm, but too often tries to force the action rather than trusting the offense. Last year, Joseph played in three games, completing 6-of-8 attempts for 56 yards and one interception. Keenum doesn't have Joseph's arm but is a bit more athletic and won't try to throw the ball into coverage. One angle to keep an eye on is the status of Al Pena, an Oklahoma State graduate who has a year of eligibility remaining and is considering spending that at Houston. Pena started four games at OSU as a sophomore in 2005. He completed just under 50 percent of his passes for 1,102 yards with eight touchdowns and 13 interceptions.

Running Backs There's not much reason to pluralize this category since Anthony "Quick Six" Alridge is the man. Alridge was converted from wide receiver last year, and not even the Cougars knew what they had until midway through the season. Alridge, who earned his nickname with his 4.2-ish speed, had only 30 carries through eight games but erupted for 492 yards in the next three. Alridge, a second-team all-conference

pick by both the media and coaches, should add considerably to last years numbers — 959 yards and 95 carries (10.1 yards per rush). Redshirt freshman Randall Antoine, who shows considerable promise as a game-breaking runner, will back up Alridge.

NUMBERS GAME

8 Quarterbacks Blake Joseph and Case Keenum, who are vying to replace record-setting quarterback Kevin Kolb, have combined to attempt eight career passes. All eight belong to Joseph.



Receivers Vincent Marshall may have checked out, but the Cougars are still loaded here, with Donnie Avery, a field-stretcher who some insist (Avery included) is faster than Alridge, and 6'5" Jeron Harvey the primary weapons. Chris Gilbert should step in for Marshall at slot receiver, a vital position in Briles' offense. Antoine has shown that he can comfortably fit into the slot position as well. The Cougars rarely throw to the tight end, but Mark Hafner (only 19 receptions last season), has outstanding hands. One wild card is L.J. Castile, who has been converted from quarterback to fully exploit his fabulous athletic gifts.

Offensive Linemen The Cougars figured they were pretty much set heading into spring, but that was before Byron Alfred decided to hang up the cleats and concentrate on law school. Considering that SirVincent Rogers (knee) will redshirt and Sebastian Vollmer (back) is still a question mark, every available body is key. The Cougars needed to find a replacement for All-C-USA first-team center Sterling Doty and are first looking at backup defensive tackle Carl Barnett, who the staff feels is a natural fit because of his quick feet. Two solid building blocks are left guard Jeff Akeroyd, who has the versatility to play tackle, and right tackle Dustin Dickinson, both of whom started all 14 games last season. Much will depend on junior college transfer Rodney Brisbon, a 6'6", 330-pound tackle who may step right in, with Dickinson sliding into the center slot and Barnett moving to guard.

Defensive Linemen What once was a question mark should be one of the team's greatest strengths. The Cougars will show a 4-2-5 scheme this year, which they feel will be far more effective against the run. One player to watch is Phillip Hunt, who may surpass Marshall's Albert McClellan and Southern Miss' Robert Henderson as the top

defensive end in the conference. Hunt, who had eight sacks last season, could easily double that total this season. The tackles are just as solid, with Ell Ash and Cody Pree penciled in as starters, but don't be surprised if Tate Stewart, who had a spectacular spring after being moved inside, replaces Pree at nose tackle. Outside linebacker Brendan Pahulu will drop down to rush end in the 4-2-5, giving the Cougars some much-needed speed and physicality on the edge.

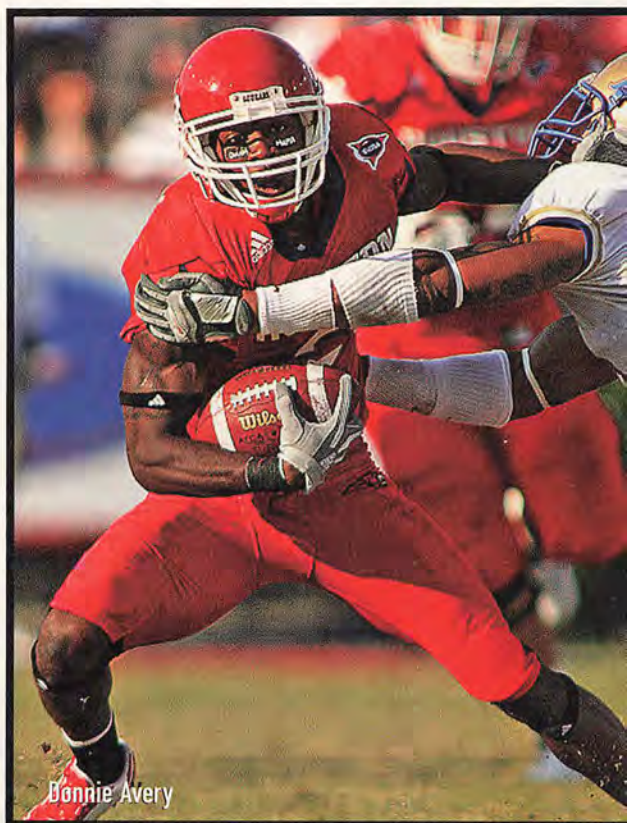
Linebackers In Cody Lubojasky and Trent Allen, the Cougars have two cerebral inside linebackers who won't make many spectacular plays but won't make many spectacular mistakes, either. After an offseason spent laboring under the care of strength coach Larry Jackson, both Lubojasky and Allen have shed pounds and increased their athleticism. Pahulu, who played on the outside last year, will move to rush end in the 4-2-5, and several players are in the mix at the newly created rover position, including Stephen James (who should start the season here), James Francis, Joseph Gonzales and Rocky Schwartz. The hard-hitting Schwartz, who could also play safety, is

returning to action after sitting out the final 11 games last year with a knee injury.

Defensive Backs This is where graduation hit the Cougars the hardest, losing safety Will Gulley, a monstrous hitter, and cornerback Willie Gaston, one of the top on-the-ball defenders in the conference. Junior cornerback Kenneth Fontenette, a two-year starter, anchors the secondary with his brilliant playmaking, combining superb athletic ability with intelligence. Junior Ernest Miller, a big hitter who has a gift for making timely plays, will start at strong safety. Free safety is wide open, but look for Broderic Bean, who has off-the-charts athleticism and is an explosive hitter, to make a run for the starting job.

Specialists There has been nothing special about the punting game the last couple of seasons. Last year the Cougars were 114th in net punting, and two years ago they were next-to-last in the nation. Redshirt freshman Tommy Skinner is first on the firing line, but freshman Chase Turner, who was a soccer player of note at Friendswood High, may work his way into the punting job. Ben Bell will handle the field goal kicking full-time. Bell is accurate (22-of-30 for his career) but hasn't yet shown that he can make the long kicks (best of 42 yards last season). One aspect of special teams that should shine is the kickoff return game, where blazers Alridge and Avery will have opponents squib kicking before long. Antoine, nicknamed "Skeez" because of his hip-swiveling moves, is dangerous on punt returns.

(See Roster, Page 200)



RISING STAR

L.J. Castile is a former quarterback



who has been moved to wide receiver, where the coaches believe they can best utilize his athletic gifts. Even though he's working on raw ability, Castile has shown a knack for making big plays.

OUTSIDE THE HUDDLE

QB, or not QB The Cougars are trying to sort out the quarterback situation, where sophomore Blake Joseph and redshirt freshman Case Keenum went through spring drills as the favorites to replace Kevin Kolb. Even after spring practice, coach Art Briles wouldn't give either player the edge. So, what is Briles looking for? "The thing that's going to determine who's going to be our quarterback is that it's going to be the person who understands their role offensively for us," Briles says. "To me, that means ball protection, down-and-distance awareness and placement of the football."

On board When safeties coach Clay Jennings bolted for Baylor, former Houston Oiler Bubba McDowell was hired away from Texas Southern as a replacement. While at TSU, McDowell mentored All-American Stacey Thomas.

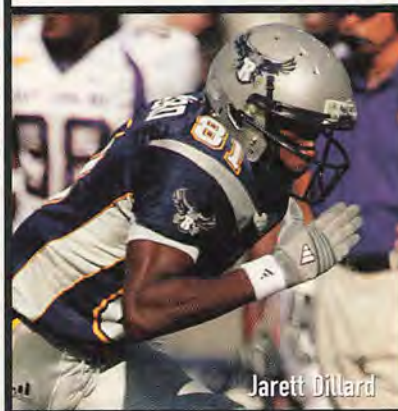
"Quick" addition It took a while for the Cougars to figure out how to work Anthony "Quick Six" Alridge into the running game, but once they did he became a terror. Alridge picked up almost half of his season total of 959 yards in a late-season three-game span.

SCOUTING THE COUGARS

Opposing coaches size up Houston: "They're very athletic on offense but prone to mistakes and letdowns. I thought they took a lot of plays off and freelanced too much. ... Their linebackers were pretty good and their secondary was athletic. They were pretty fast, but it seemed like they were asked to do more things than they needed to do. There were times guys got caught flat-footed because they were thinking. Either that, or you could catch guys out of position. ... They're gonna be hurting without (Kevin) Kolb (at quarterback). He'd been in that system since he was in high school, and you can't just replace that. I think they'll be some learning curve in there for the next guy. This might be a good year to catch them. ... The offense, Art (Briles) has been running that forever. He calls it a spread. To the naked eye it looks like he's throwing bubble screens and stuff, but it's all triple option. Actually, it's a veer option. ... Up front, I thought they stunk; worst line in our league. But the scheme helps them. All they have to do is stand up, get to a spot and let the back make his cut. You hardly have to block anybody. But they've got good backs, and if you give them any space, they'll make you eat it."

A QUICK LOOK AT THE OWLS

Renowned in coaching circles for the success he had with the 4-2-5 formation while serving as defensive coordinator at TCU, David Bailiff might have stumbled upon a roster tailor-made to execute his scheme. The back seven is deep and fast with abundant youth, factors that should allow Bailiff to take chances with his blitz packages. Four of the top five linebackers are either juniors or sophomores, classifications that typically represent players in their prime or ones poised for breakthroughs. And though the Owls feature only two premium cornerbacks, they have a gaggle of athletic safeties to provide additional support. An area of concern comes in the trenches, where a lack of depth could make the defense susceptible to the run. Bereft of experienced hands, Bailiff may be forced to play true freshmen not only on the defensive front, but on the offensive line as well. If Bailiff can keep his top six offensive linemen healthy and uncover enough gems to supply reinforcements, the offense could excel. Last season proved a rousing success for the offense, with the Chase Clement-Jarett Dillard tandem working wonders. With a bounty at tailback and receiver, another season should produce statistics that could threaten school records.


Jarett Dillard
2007 SCHEDULE

S. 1	Nicholls State	W
S. 8	at Baylor	*
S. 15	Texas Tech	L
S. 22	at Texas	L
O. 3	at Southern Miss	L
O. 13	at Houston	L
O. 20	Memphis	W
O. 27	at Marshall	L
N. 3	UTEP	*
N. 10	at SMU	L
N. 17	Tulane	W
N. 24	Tulsa	L

*Games in **bold** represent games crucial to the season.
W or L indicates a projected win or loss

More than a specific number of wins, first-year Rice coach David Bailiff will have to reignite the enthusiasm and revitalize the energy that evaporated when Todd Graham bolted for Tulsa after leading the Owls to the New Orleans Bowl in his lone season.

All of the Owls' pressing concerns between the lines took a temporary back seat while Bailiff mended with players and supporters the fences Graham knocked down when he resigned roughly 48 hours after signing a contract extension. Bailiff pressed the flesh and wore a big, warm smile while engaging all comers, knowing full well that the first game he needed to win was the one involving casual fan interest.

When the games actually begin, Bailiff will see that Graham left him plenty to work with. The newly installed spread offense clicked when Chase Clement called the signals, and while the defense allowed yards by the bunches, it was resilient and opportunistic. Few predicted the Owls would qualify for a bowl last season, their first in 45 years, and it's difficult to gauge their prospects following a tumultuous offseason.

Quarterbacks If there was one player equipped with the skills required to thrive as the Owls transitioned from a wishbone to a spread offense, it was Clement. A woefully poor fit in the option attack as a freshman, Clement experienced a breakout sophomore season following the schematic change, slowed only by the fractures in his right thumb and right collarbone that caused him to miss five starts and half of the win over East Carolina. Clement is expected to take another step forward and challenge for first team All-C-USA honors. The subtle changes implemented by the new staff shouldn't hinder his development, and the bond Clement forged with Major Applewhite, his offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach in 2006, could be reestablished with successor Tom Herman. Herman and Applewhite were at Texas together (Applewhite as a player, Herman as a coach) and share similar philosophies. The Owls' most pressing concern is keeping Clement healthy. Backup John Shepherd is serviceable, but the talent disparity between him and Clement is significant.

Running Backs The four-candidate competition for the starting spot lasted throughout the spring, with none of the quartet doing much to separate from the pack. Sophomore Marcus Knox has the most upside, with his no-nonsense approach to hitting holes and ability to change directions. But he has struggled adapting to the new offense, and his problems grasping the

scheme in 2006 left him relegated to special teams. Should the light ever come on, Knox could surprise. "The offense that we're going through right now is a whole lot easier for me to get a good grasp on it," Knox says. "You can pick up a lot more stuff as the year goes along." Sophomore C.J. Ugokwe is steady in every phase, much like the departed Quinton Smith. He has ideal size (5'11", 220), runs hard, blocks well, and is an able receiver, but he lacks the explosion that Knox and senior Bio Bilaye-Benibo possess. Bilaye-Benibo and senior Bubba Heard originally signed with the Owls as tailbacks, but both played defense last season, with Bilaye-Benibo serving as a situational pass rusher and Heard a cornerback. At the very least, both should provide depth.

NUMBERS GAME

2 Rice logged over 13,000 travel miles in 2006. This season, the Owls play only two games (Marshall and Southern Miss) outside Texas' borders.

Receivers Entering last season, the Owls' lack of experienced options at receiver appeared to be the greatest obstacle for the implementation of the spread. One year later, with Jarett Dillard having posted All-America numbers and a bumper crop of freshmen having developed at an accelerated pace, Rice's receiver depth is a plus. Dillard set single-season school records for receptions (91), receiving yards (1,247) and TDs (21). He likely won't approach those staggering totals as a junior, not with sophomores Toren Dixon, Corbin Smiter and Andrew Novak poised to contribute far more than their combined 14 receptions for 136 yards last season. Senior Joel Armstrong, who started four games under center when Clement was sidelined, can focus exclusively on shoring up the slot position along with junior third-down specialist Tommy Henderson. Redshirt freshman Pierre Beasley, a former quarterback, is the wildcard.

Offensive Linemen What looked to be a unit of potential strength at the close of the 2006 season turned into one of uncertainty during the spring when injuries slowed starter David Berken and reserve tackle Jimmy Miller. Berken was set to replace Rolf Krueger at left tackle, but his absence left the Owls in a lurch as spring workouts came to a conclusion. Even with Berken and Miller in the mix, the Owls lack experience beyond their top six. Preston Thompson, Scott Austin, and Charlie Wiebusch made strides, but the coaching staff anticipates a few true freshmen making the occasional road trip.

Defensive Linemen Bailiff aspires to rotate between 8-10 linemen during the course of a game, but that scenario would require at least two true freshmen to earn live repetitions. Only two of the linemen who broke spring camp, seniors George Chukwu and Jonathan Cary, saw extensive playing time last season. The projected starters at end are a 23-year-old freshman (James Casey) who spent four summers playing professional baseball, and a junior (Dietrich Davis) who missed eight games in 2006 after suffering multiple concussions. The four reserves — Victor Brooks, Chris Ptaszek, Travis Mason and Todd Mohr — recorded three total tackles, although Brooks did post two sacks against UCLA.

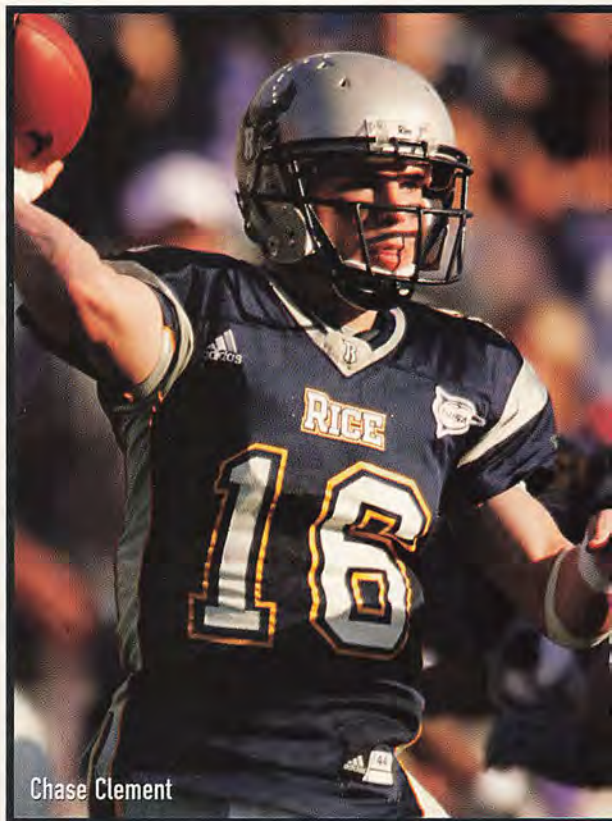
Linebackers The switch to a 4-2-5 formation and the burgeoning potential of sophomores Terrance Garmon and Robert Calhoun allowed the Owls to move forward in the spring without All-C-USA junior Brian Raines, who had offseason shoulder surgery. Garmon started the final three games of his true freshman season and gave indication in the spring that his career is about to take off. Calhoun scuffled occasionally adapting to the new defense, but his athleticism was hard to ignore. Jonathan Arceneaux, who signed with Garmon and

Calhoun in February 2006, may be poised for a breakout season after showing flashes of stardom before suffering a season-ending knee injury against Texas. Junior Vernon James started four games last season but couldn't fend off his younger teammates. Raines is sure to get his starting job back once he returns from injury, but he may shift to the hybrid linebacker/safety position to supply the defense additional speed.

Defensive Backs Bookend cornerbacks Ja'Corey Shepherd and Brandon King impressed as sophomores — when they were healthy. Shepherd missed one start because of a sore knee, and was suspended for the New Orleans Bowl after violating team rules. King missed three midseason starts with an ankle injury and was unavailable during the spring (academics). Should the Owls keep both active for 12 games, they'll have few worries. Like linebacker, safety became an area of strength because of the rapid development of youngsters. Sophomore Andrew Sendejo made 11 starts at spur, while classmate Joseph Agnew supplied consistent effort off the bench. Juniors Bencil Smith and Carl Taylor spent last season in the doghouse, but both appear primed to make an impact. Redshirt freshman Max Anyiam could be the most intriguing sleeper in the Owls' secondary.

Specialists Walk-on Clark Fangmeier enjoyed a fairytale freshman season, converting all 35 of his PATs while nailing a 40-yard game-winning field goal against East Carolina. The coaching staff rewarded him with a scholarship and the role as undisputed kicker in the offseason. Senior Luke Juist, who handled kicks of 40-plus yards last season, assumes punting chores despite managing 21 yards on his lone punt in 2006. The return game is uncertain, leaving the door open for true freshmen Michael Fuda and Tyler Smith to make an impact.

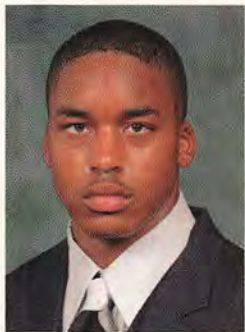
(See Roster, Page 210)



Chase Clement

RISING STAR

Sophomore linebacker Terrance Garmon



moved into the starting lineup with two games remaining in the regular season yet finished his freshman campaign with 35 tackles, two interceptions and a blocked kick. Garmon (6'3", 215) closes

quickly on ball-carriers, and as he fills out his frame, he should only improve.

SCOUTING THE OWLS

Opposing coaches size up Rice: "Last year they ran the same 3-5 defense Todd Graham ran at Tulsa, and they did a nice job with it. They were very aggressive, very much a swarming defense. I thought they were overachieving considering what they had on the field; it was like every guy was 5'11", 6-feet and 200 pounds. But they could all run, and they were full-tilt all the way, every play. ... You look at them one-by-one or on paper and you go, 'Is this a joke?' The quarterback is too short and not very adequate. The offensive line, they just get in people's way. They don't really outplay you. The runners are average — maybe. But the receiver (Jarett Dillard) is by far the best receiver in our league and ought to be an All-American. He's that good. He can beat any corner in our league. He's got good speed, knows how to get open and can play the jump ball as well as anybody I've ever seen. So you don't see that many pieces you like, but you put them together and it works for them."

OUTSIDE THE HUDDLE

Ch-, ch-, ch-, changes In conjunction with playing under a third coaching staff in three seasons, several Owls either changed positions or numbers in the spring. Redshirt freshman Pierre Beasley, the centerpiece of the Class of 2006, shifted from quarterback to receiver in search of more playing time. Seniors Bio Bilaye-Benibo and Bubba Heard returned to tailback after spending last season at defensive end and cornerback, respectively. Junior Dietrich Davis split time at linebacker and defensive end, but now will play end exclusively. Davis also switched numbers (95 to 21), as did redshirt freshman safety Max Anyiam (17 to 33) and sophomore tailback C.J. Ugokwe (45 to 28).

Golden opportunity There was plenty of concern among Rice faithful when Beasley switched positions, for many had looked forward to his providing Chase Clement a reliable backup. The Owls went 1-4 in the games Clement missed due to injury, and with Joel Armstrong no longer toggling back and forth between quarterback and slot receiver, the onus falls on sophomore John Shepherd to provide a steady hand behind Clement.

A QUICK LOOK AT THE MUSTANGS

SMU was in position to win Conference USA's West Division title in November, a remarkable achievement for a program that was winless in 2003 and hasn't had a winning season since 1997. SMU has its share of playmakers, from quarterback **Justin Willis**, receiver **Emmanuel Sanders** and running back **DeMyron Martin** to kick return specialist **Jessie Henderson**. Willis passed for 2,047 yards and a school-record 26 touchdowns and was intercepted six times. Sanders benefited from Willis' smashing debut of a season by catching nine TD passes, the most by a freshman in school history and the second-most by an SMU receiver. And having Martin back, after he missed most of 2006 with an injury, will make a potent offense more dangerous. Martin rushed for more than 850 yards two years ago and is a receiving threat out of the backfield. Defensively, the Mustangs return five full-time starters and a few other part-timers from the secondary. Defensive end **Cory Muse** and middle linebacker **Reggie Carrington** will anchor a unit that led the league in rush defense and ranked fifth overall. SMU led C-USA in kick-return average a year ago, and that was without a healthy Henderson, the league leader in 2005 who sat out most of last year with a foot injury.


Emmanuel Sanders
2007 SCHEDULE

S. 3	Texas Tech	L
S. 8	North Texas	W
S. 15	at Arkansas State	W
S. 22	at TCU	L
S. 29	UTEP	W
O. 13	at Southern Miss	L
O. 20	Tulane	W
O. 27	at Tulsa	L
N. 4	at Houston	L
N. 10	Rice	W
N. 17	UCF	*
N. 24	at Memphis	W

*Games in **bold** represent games crucial to the season.
W or L indicates a projected win or loss

Layne Murdoch Jr.

Improvement at SMU has been coming in what one might term a steady trot. Winless in 2003, SMU went 3-8 in 2004. Two years ago, the Mustangs finished 5-6 — including 4-4 in their first Conference USA season — and ended the year on a three-game winning streak.

Last year, the Mustangs finished 6-6, their first non-losing record since 1997. This season, SMU will be attempting to earn its first bowl invitation in 23 years and may have the personnel to snap the streak. The Mustangs are loaded with arguably the best young talent in the league.

It's a group led by record-setting quarterback Justin Willis and wide receiver Emmanuel Sanders, both of whom earned freshman All-America recognition last fall. Willis, Conference USA's Freshman of the Year, broke a nearly 40-year-old school record for most touchdowns in a season. Sanders caught touchdowns in six straight games, breaking a nearly 30-year-old school mark.

The emergence of Willis and Sanders and the return of running back DeMyron Martin give the offense a solid foundation. Martin was a freshman All-American two years ago but was slowed by injury last season.

"We made a dramatic improvement last year in scoring offense, and when we bring our running game up, we'll be an improved football team," coach Phil Bennett says.

Defensively, the Mustangs return five starters from a unit that led the conference in rushing defense (107.5 yards per game) and ranked fifth in total defense (353.3 ypg).

"We're excited about the guys we have coming back — on both sides of the ball," Bennett says. "A bowl game is an absolute possibility."

Quarterbacks If Willis can post similar numbers — and get some help from the SMU running game — he could challenge Tulsa's Paul Smith for the league's top quarterback honors. Willis (6'1", 210) passed for 2,047 yards and 26 touchdowns as a freshman and was intercepted only six times. His quarterback rating of 158.4 ranked 10th nationally. Willis' 26 TD passes broke the school record of 21 set in 1968 by Chuck Hixson, and with better depth at receiver, the record could be in jeopardy again. Also a running threat, Willis ranked second on the team with 354 rushing yards and scored three touchdowns. During spring workouts, Willis was somewhat limited after breaking his hand in January. But he participated and drew further praise from Bennett for his toughness. Junior Corey Slater will be Willis' backup and has some experience. In the spring, Slater displayed an improved understanding of the offense and, according to Bennett, made some strides.

Running Backs Here's the key to SMU's bowl chances. SMU ranked eighth in the conference in rushing (125.3 yards per game) and scored a league-low seven rushing touchdowns. The Mustangs' inability to score on two 1st-and-goal opportunities from the 1-yard line in a season-ending loss at Rice cost SMU a bowl trip. Besides Martin, the Mustangs have James Mapps and Fred Turner, two backs who posted 100-yard games a year ago while Martin was on the mend. Martin suffered a foot injury in the second game of the season and missed five of the team's next six games. He vows to return physically and mentally stronger. Despite missing practically half the season, Martin, who rushed for 854 yards and seven touchdowns as a freshman, led the Mustangs in rushing as a sophomore with 369 yards.

NUMBERS GAME

22 SMU had 22 scoring drives last year that required less than two minutes.

Receivers It was difficult to get an accurate gauge on the SMU receiving corps in the spring, but it projects to be a solid unit in the fall. Sanders was slowed in the spring after coming off knee surgery but had six catches for 34 yards and a TD in the spring game. Columbus Givens, expected to be a starter in the fall, missed the spring due to an illness that left him anemic and forced him to withdraw from school. He should be back in August after catching up academically in the summer. And third-string quarterback Zach Rhodes, a multi-talented athlete, took snaps at wideout this spring. SMU plans to get him on the field. Sanders caught 46 passes for 605 yards and nine touchdowns as a freshman and should emerge as one C-USA's top wideouts, along with Rice's Jarett Dillard and Houston's Donnie Avery. Former high school All-American Vincent Chase also will figure prominently into the offense at tight end.

Offensive Linemen Bennett is encouraged by a line that returns four of five starters, even though there was a key position change and two linemen missed spring drills. Center Ben Poynter moved to left tackle and Mitch Enright took over at center. In the spring, the Mustangs played without left guard Sean Lobo and right guard Caleb Peveto. But Kenard Burley returns at right tackle, and Bennett says there should be enough depth to have a two-deep without freshmen. If the line is effective, it will give Martin a chance for a 1,000-yard season and Willis an opportunity to surpass 2,000 passing yards again.

Defensive Linemen The bulk of the defense's personnel losses from last season were up front, but the Mustangs return an all-conference performer in defensive end Cory Muse. A 6'3", 250-pound senior, Muse earned second-team all-conference honors last year after being part of a unit that ranked first in C-USA against the run. Muse recorded 10.5 tackles for a loss and seven sacks despite being limited in five games with a bad knee and missing two other games. Defensive end Patrick Handy and defensive tackle Charlie Berry move into starting roles but won't be strangers to competition. Berry has appeared in 30 games the past three seasons, and Handy played in 10 games a year ago with two starts. Justin Smart, a converted linebacker, could be a factor as a reserve defensive end. Smart (6'4", 225) is an explosive player who has the quickness to create havoc in the offensive backfield.

Linebackers All three SMU linebackers return, including middle linebacker Reggie Carrington, whom Bennett calls the league's best. Carrington, along with outside linebackers Tony Hawkins and Wilton McCray, combined for 25 tackles for a loss and helped SMU lead C-USA in that category.

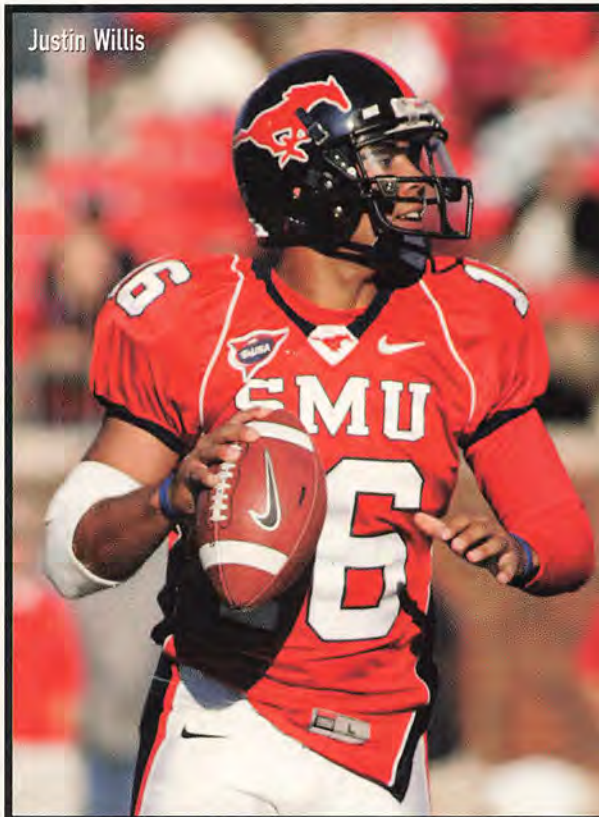
Carrington is the team's leading returning tackler with 80. He finished with 10 tackles for a loss last fall and had four sacks, earning second-team all-conference honors in the process. Although listed as a senior, Carrington was granted an extra year of eligibility by the NCAA for 2008. Hawkins made significant progress in the spring, and McCray returns as a starter for the fourth year.

Defensive Backs The Ponies welcome back three defensive backs who started at least three games last season, including both corners, Bryan McCann and Jonathan Lindley. McCann was a member of the league's all-freshman team last year. He appeared in 11 games and started three of the last four. Lindley, who became a starter last fall as a junior, was active, too, breaking up six passes and returning a fumble 80 yards for a touchdown against UTEP. Bryce Hudman, like McCann, emerged as a starter late last season as a freshman. A medical redshirt in 2005, Hudman started the team's final four games a year ago and will play strong safety. Junior college transfer Rock Dennis settled into the No. 1 spot at free safety in the spring and should be a playmaker in the secondary for the Mustangs.

Specialists SMU should field one of the conference's top return games. Jessie Henderson, a freshman All-American in 2005, will be back after missing most of last season with a foot injury. As a freshman, Henderson led C-USA with a 27.6-yard kickoff return average. Sanders, who is a candidate to return punts, filled in for Henderson a year ago and averaged 24.0 yards per kickoff return, second in the league. The Mustangs' kicking game will be in junior Thomas Morstead's hands — or feet. He'll handle both the placekicking and punting duties, as he did in 2006. Morstead ranked first in the conference in punting (43.8 yards) and connected on 13-of-18 field goal attempts.

(See Roster, Page 202)

Justin Willis



RISING STAR

Junior **Vincent Chase** finds himself in position to become one of the better tight ends in the program's history. Chase (6'5", 255) spent the past two years as a backup to Ryan Kennedy but should become a key contributor this fall with Kennedy's departure. Florida, Oklahoma, LSU and



Arkansas were among the schools seeking Chase's services in 2004, when he was regarded as one of the nation's top prep tight end prospects.

OUTSIDE THE HUDDLE

National attention With an offense expected to be one of the more productive in the conference, SMU will garner its share of national attention. The Mustangs are scheduled to be on national cable television five times, a record number during the Phil Bennett Era. SMU will open the season Sept. 3 on ESPN against Texas Tech and play consecutive league games on CSTV (Sept. 22 vs. TCU, Sept. 29 vs. UTEP and Oct. 13 vs. Southern Miss) before ending their time in the national spotlight Nov. 4 on ESPN against Houston.

A change for the better? Redshirt freshman quarterback Zach Rhodes, who has had a history of shoulder problems, spent some time in the spring working out at receiver. The team's third-string quarterback, Rhodes encountered additional discomfort with his throwing shoulder in the spring and could become a factor in the two-deep at the Z receiver. Rhodes (6'2", 205) played quarterback and defensive back at New Braunfels (Texas) High and was considered one of the state's top athletes. He was timed at 4.38 seconds in the 40-yard dash.

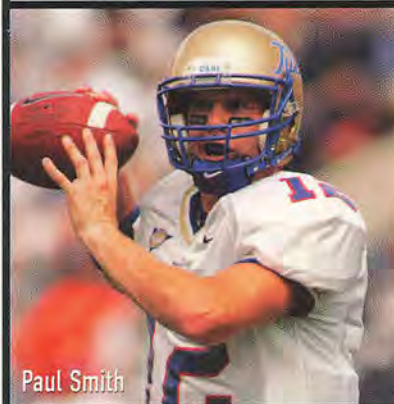
SCOUTING THE MUSTANGS

Opposing coaches size up SMU: "It's all about their quarterback. He's pretty average, really, in terms of being able to make plays with his arm. He's just not a very good thrower. But he kills everybody with his feet. He drops back, you rush him and he gets out of there and goes for 15 or 20 yards, and you gotta line up and play him again. ... Overall, I thought they were fairly soft. They weren't very physical up front; their tailback made guys miss, created some things for himself. ... Their wide receivers are average, but they catch the ball and they don't make mistakes. ... I'd say they're a bunch of average Joes who play OK together. ... When they get a couple of big plays and don't do something stupid, they'll be in the game. If not, they'll get kicked around."



A QUICK LOOK AT THE GOLDEN HURRICANE

Tulsa's third bowl game in four years was good enough to get Steve Kragthorpe the head coaching job at Louisville. But he was 0-7 against BCS conference teams, which is something new coach — and former Kragthorpe defensive coordinator — Todd Graham wants to change, ideally when Oklahoma comes to town on Sept. 21. The Golden Hurricane, who won Conference USA in 2005 and started 7-1 last season before a three-game slide, have many of the pieces in place for another championship chase. Foremost is senior quarterback Paul Smith, who's 17-9 in two seasons as the starter. Smith must identify his best options from a host of new and inexperienced receivers. The running game is in good hands with senior Courtney Tennial and junior Tarrion Adams, but a renovated offensive line could be problematic. There is enough talent and experience back from a defense that led C-USA in passing and total defense to keep Tulsa in games early while the offense learns a new system. Linebackers Nelson Coleman and Chris Chamberlain and defensive backs Anthony Germany and Steve Craver are impact playmakers, and linemen Moton Hopkins and Terrel Nemons and cornerback Roy Roberts have experience.



Paul Smith

2007 SCHEDULE

A. 30	at UL Monroe	W
S. 15	BYU	L
S. 21	Oklahoma	L
S. 29	UAB	W
O. 6	at UTEP	W
O. 13	Marshall	W
O. 20	at UCF	*
O. 27	SMU	W
N. 3	at Tulane	W
N. 10	Houston	*
N. 17	at Army	W
N. 24	at Rice	W

*Games in bold represent games crucial to the season. W or L indicates a projected win or loss

Peter Brouillette

The new, it seems, never wears off at Tulsa. Just when Steve Kragthorpe got people used to the idea of winning, he left, a quick flight to Louisville after a run of four mostly successful seasons — including three bowl games — at the small, private university in northeast Oklahoma.

But the foundations that Kragthorpe built — rather, the dense fortifications that stand firmly upon those foundations — remain intact, perhaps even stronger now than before. That's because Kragthorpe's right-hand man, the architect who turned Tulsa's one-time flophouse defense into a respectable structure built with grit and sweat and attitude, is back.

Todd Graham, who coordinated Tulsa's defense from 2003-05, replaced Kragthorpe in January, hired a young and driven staff, recruited his Texas roots and brought Kragthorpe's burning intensity to an entirely different level.

In one season as head coach at Rice, Graham guided the Owls to their first bowl game in 45 years. He got a seven-year contract extension, then took the Tulsa job three days later because, he said, it was an opportunity that he and his family simply couldn't pass up. "To be able to return to a program that you helped to rebuild, and now have the chance to take it to an even higher level, is exciting," Graham says.

West Virginia assistant Herb Hand will coordinate the offense alongside Gus Malzahn, the former Arkansas coordinator. Malzahn, Graham says, "has a great offensive mind and his no-huddle spread offense style is exactly what we want to employ at Tulsa."

Former Alabama assistant Paul Randolph takes over the defense with Keith Patterson, who last season took TU to the top of Conference USA's defensive rankings. Graham played small-college football with Patterson and was with him three years at Tulsa; Graham coached with Randolph at West Virginia and Rice. "The familiarity we have of each other is a huge advantage," Graham says.

The Golden Hurricane must replace four starters on the offensive line and their top three receivers from an offense that last season averaged 27.7 points and 388.5 yards per game. Quarterback Paul Smith — on the verge of becoming TU's career passing leader — and leading rushers Courtney Tennial and Tarrion Adams anchor the offense.

Tulsa returns eight defensive players who have started but needs to find replacements for linebacker Nick Bunting and safeties Kedrick Alexander and Bobby Blackshire. Last season, Tulsa led C-USA in total defense (296.9 yards per game) and pass defense (159.2) and ranked second in scoring defense and third in rush defense.



Quarterbacks Smith threw for 2,847 yards in 2005 and 2,727 yards last season. In two years as the Golden Hurricane's starter, Smith has 35 touchdown passes with only 15 interceptions and is completing 64.4 percent of his throws. More important, Smith's record as the starter is 17-9, with a conference title and two bowl trips. But even Smith has a learning curve in Malzahn's no-huddle, hurry-up offense. He started slow in the spring but eventually started picking up more and more. In four spring scrimmages, Smith was 50-of-91 for 743 yards with nine TD throws. Smith's backup is junior David Johnson, who got a lot less time last year than he did in 2005, but in his career is 37-of-55 for 416 yards. As good as Smith has been, it's easy to forget he and Johnson were neck-and-neck during the spring of 2005.

NUMBERS GAME

151

In Tulsa's four regular-season losses in 2006, the defense allowed 151 points, an average of nearly 38 per game. By comparison, it allowed only 86 in its eight wins — just under 11 points per game.

Running Backs Tennial, in his first season as a feature back after two years of obscurity at Oklahoma, ran for 845 yards and 14 touchdowns. He also caught two TD passes. His short, powerful legs and above-average upper-body strength make something of a battering ram, but he's also deceptively quick and loves to cut against the grain. Adams averaged 6.4 yards per carry two years ago, but injuries limited him last season. He appeared to be back to form in the spring, averaging 6.7 yards per carry in three major scrimmages. Spring football also turned up a productive face in the backfield in redshirt freshman Jamad Williams, who became the feature runner in scrimmages. In the fall, the arrival of heralded newcomers Charles Opeseyitan and Charles Clay should make this position a team strength.

Receivers No position was more closely watched in the spring, and no position showed a greater need for help arriving in the fall. The loss of Idris Moss and Ryan Bugg from last season will be felt. The receivers in the spring showed some big-play ability but lacked consistency overall and showed inexperience with route-running, reading defenses and even just catching the football. Junior college transfer Dion Toliver and junior Nick Henderson looked to be at the

top of the current class in the spring, but transfer Corey Kizer, Kyle Grooms, Jesse Meyer and Daniel Morrell showed ability. A touted freshman class — including A.J. Whitmore and Trae Johnson — arrives in August, but the complexity of the offense isn't intended for the youth.

Offensive Linemen Four of last year's five starters are gone. That includes one named first-team All-C-USA, two named second team and one who was academic all-conference with 32 career starts. Only junior Justin Morsey, who started 10 games last season at right guard, returns as a starter. Walter Boyd previously played defensive tackle and last season made 27 stops. He has the frame and the feet coaches desire for left tackle, where he spent the entire spring. Rodrick Thomas got into shape and won the job at right tackle, and sophomores Jody Whaley and Curt Puckett seem to have settled in at center and left guard, respectively.

Defensive Linemen Two juniors — nose guard Terrel Nemons and end Moton Hopkins — anchor the 3-3-5 defense up front, where they combined for 71 tackles last season. Hopkins missed most of the spring recovering from arthroscopic knee surgery. Replacing ends Kinny Spotwood and Robert Latu (he led the team in tackles for a loss, sacks and quarterback

hurries) won't be easy. Senior Brandon Jones has plenty of experience backing up Nemons, but if Tulsa's defense is going to challenge again, lettermen like sophomores Popsie Floyd and Cedric Godfrey and newcomers like junior college transfer Eliot Allen will have to contribute.

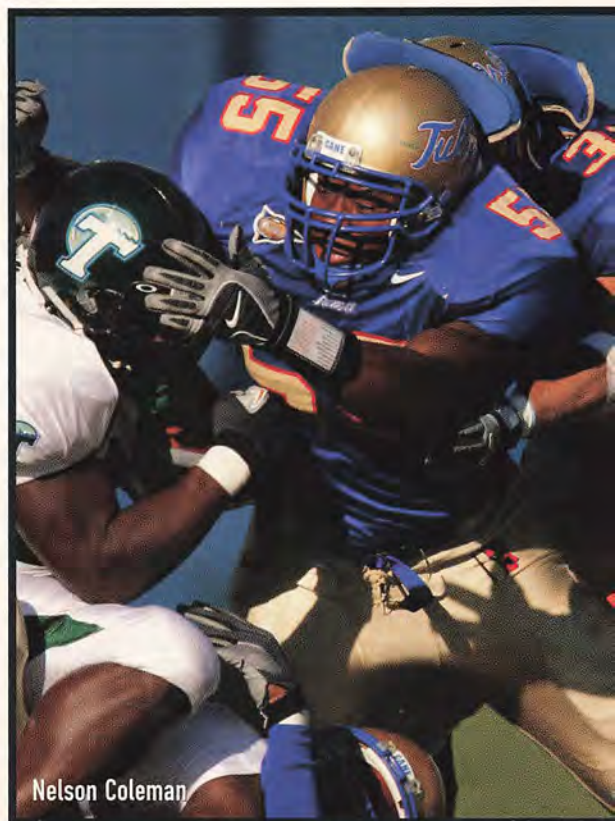


Linebackers Losing Bunting will hurt. He was the heart and soul of the TU defense for two years. But the cupboard isn't empty. Nelson Coleman led Tulsa in tackles each of the last two years (117 and 98) and seems to only be getting more consistent. Hard-hitting senior Chris Chamberlain can change a game. Alain Karatepeyan replaces Bunting after two seasons as his backup. Karatepeyan has shown big-play ability in games and was especially productive in the spring scrimmages.

Defensive Backs Two stars are gone in Alexander and Blackshire. Alexander was third on the club last season with 70 tackles, and Blackshire had four interceptions. Cornerback Nick Graham is also gone after 30 career starts. That leaves safeties Steve Craver, who was starting in '05 before an injury, and Anthony Germany, who has 24 career starts and showed big-play potential last season, and cornerback Roy Roberts from last season's top-ranked pass defense in C-USA. Diminutive sophomore Charles Davis may have won the other cornerback spot during the spring.

Specialists With the ball five yards further back on kickoffs, Graham said he'd give a scholarship to anyone who can kick it to the goal line. Jarod Tracy is one candidate. He made 11-of-12 field goals last season, including 4-of-4 from beyond 40 yards. Punter Paul Jurado is another. He averaged 40.5 yards per kick and put one-third of his punts inside the 20. Davis showed great burst in the spring as the primary return man. Toliver also may return kicks, and at least one of those fast freshmen will get a shot.

(See Roster, Page 203)



Nelson Coleman

RISING STAR

Moving senior **Walter Boyd** from defensive line to offensive line just

makes sense. But it also could make Boyd a star. The Golden Hurricane's depth on defense is adequate, and the O-line is breaking in four new starters. So in the spring, Boyd took

his long frame and quick feet to offense, and he's already one of the team's best blockers.



SCOUTING THE GOLDEN HURRICANE

Opposing coaches size up Tulsa: "Todd Graham loves that 3-5 that some teams are going to, and they execute it. Every guy buys into to what they do. I didn't think they were overly physical, but they were good enough. Their linebackers and safeties run and hit, and if you have that in our league you're going to win a lot of games. They match up well with just about everybody. They run what they run, and they're smart about what they do. It's hard to tell when they're coming after you (on a blitz). They disguise well, so when they do come they catch you off-guard. ... The QB (Paul Smith) is key for them. He has to make good decisions. (Former coach) Steve (Kragthorpe) used his tight ends better than anybody in our league, lots of drags, outs, zooms. They've not had any really special players at receiver, but they don't need any with how they scheme you."

OUTSIDE THE HUDDLE

New leadership Todd Graham pieced a coaching staff together that includes last year's defensive coordinator, Keith Patterson, who followed Steve Kragthorpe to Louisville, then came back to work for Graham. Some of Graham's other hires: Gus Malzahn from Arkansas, Herb Hand from West Virginia and Paul Randolph from Alabama.

New name Skelly Stadium will be receiving a major facelift after this season. The new name — Skelly Field at H. A. Chapman Stadium — comes from the family whose foundation has committed roughly half the \$18 million cost. Among other projects, the \$10 million Case Athletic Complex opens in June.

Money matters When Houston media outlets, citing sources at Rice, reported that Tulsa gave Graham a six-year contract worth \$1.1 million annually, it made news. Even to Graham. "That's not true. It's absolutely not true," Graham said. "If it is, I signed the wrong document." Still, Graham said Tulsa's financial commitment was "strong" and added, "I was blown away."



A QUICK LOOK AT THE MINERS

Mike Price's high-powered passing game revolved around the arm of record-setter Jordan Palmer, and the five-player scrum to replace Palmer will likely end up dictating whether this season is marked by rebuilding or a third bowl appearance in four years. If **Trevor Vittatoe** or **Brandis Dew** can seize the position, the Miners should be strong enough, with a veteran offensive line and solid running back corps, to be potent on offense, even though it will likely be more ground-based than the last three years. Still, UTEP will have to be better on defense for that to matter, and that defensive improvement will have to be driven by a veteran secondary and linebacking corps that will have to be an anchor while a young, retooled defensive line comes together. The defense's season fell apart last year when team leader **Jeremy Jones** was injured after only two games, and this year's Miners may not be equipped to deal with a key injury of similar magnitude. A key for a young team will be performing well in a tough opening game against New Mexico. Texas Tech is after that, but then come winnable games against New Mexico State, Texas Southern and SMU that could help erase the memory of last season's 5-7 record.

Marcus Thomas



2007 SCHEDULE

S. 1	New Mexico	L
S. 8	at Texas Tech	L
S. 15	at New Mexico State	W
S. 22	Texas Southern	W
S. 29	at SMU	L
O. 6	Tulsa	L
O. 13	East Carolina	*
O. 27	Houston	L
N. 3	at Rice	*
N. 10	at Tulane	*
N. 17	Southern Miss	L
N. 24	at UCF	L

*Games in **bold** represent games crucial to the season.
W or L indicates a projected win or loss

Collectively, the first three years of coach Mike Price's tenure at UTEP have been a resounding success for a program that historically hasn't had much of it. Following a 5-7 step-back campaign in 2006, however, the Miners hit 2007 at a significant crossroads. They lost most of a defense that wasn't very good, and they lost the three key playmakers from an offense that was both explosive and mistake-prone — after a season that failed to live up to expectations.

To get back to the bowl status it enjoyed in Price's first two seasons, UTEP has to sort through a list of names at quarterback and on the defensive line that is both large and completely unproven. That's the bleak news.

The good news is that Price's greatest accomplishment since arriving in El Paso has been infusing the Miners with confidence, high expectations and raw talent that had largely been lacking in a program that played in two bowl games in the 36 years prior to his arrival.

UTEP has a bunch of work to do to make that three bowls in four years, but with a manageable Conference USA schedule and a strong junior college class that created a buzz during the spring, there's more hope around the Sun Bowl than typically meets a rebuilding season.

Quarterbacks Replacing Jordan Palmer, who rewrote UTEP's passing records during his 42 starts, is the most obvious and urgent priority for the Miners, and the list of potential replacements goes five deep. The coaching staff rotated freshman **Trevor Vittatoe**, sophomores **Kyle Wright**, **Brandis Dew**, **James Thomas** and senior **Lorne Sam** equally throughout the spring and carefully avoided any comments that could tip their leanings for the position. Sam has the most experience as he was a change-of-pace running quarterback who took several snaps per game last season, but he's also one of the team's two most experienced receivers and seems a likely starter there. Vittatoe, who led the scout team last season, and the strong-armed, big-bodied, but oft-injured Dew seem the most likely candidates to emerge from the battle, though Wright also had his moments in the spring. Price says a decision on a starter may not come until shortly before the Sept. 1 opener against New Mexico, and given that UTEP averaged 312.8 passing yards per game last season in Price's quarterback-driven offense, UTEP's season likely hinges on the performance of whoever ends up under center.

Running Backs While the Miners break in a new quarterback, they are going to lean on a deep group of running backs and an offensive line that returns its two-deep

almost completely intact. UTEP's rushing game was a disaster last season, averaging only 57.6 yards per game (116th in the nation), but the belief is that another year with the same unit, plus the addition of promising transfer **Terrell Jackson** from Oregon, should lead to a major upgrade. Jackson, who had a standout spring, joins the top three running backs from last season — senior **Marcus Thomas** and sophomores **Donald Buckram** and **Jason Williams**. "That is one of our strong points," Price says. "That's one of the most competitive positions on the team. We're going to run the ball more this year."

NUMBERS GAME

57.6

UTEP averaged 57.6 rushing yards per game last season and 2.4 yards per rush, compared with 312.8 yards per game in the air.

Receivers If there is one area where UTEP always expects to be strong under Price it's at receiver. At the moment, though, that's something the Miners have to take on faith. UTEP lost **Johnnie Lee Higgins** to the NFL and has to replace No. 2 receiver **Daniel Robinson** as well, and most of the candidates are young and unproven. The exceptions are seniors **Joe West**, who is looking to make the leap from the No. 3 man in the three-receiver set to the featured ball-catcher, and **Sam**, though he spent the spring splitting time between receiver and quarterback. Sophomore **Jeff Moturi** had a big spring, but the most intriguing player at this position is sophomore transfer **Fred Rouse**. Widely considered the top high school receiver in the country in 2004, Rouse spent the 2005 season at Florida State before running into legal trouble and heading to UTEP. Rouse missed most of the spring with a groin injury and still has outstanding charges against him in Florida for burglary and grand theft. The Miners are also stacked at tight end, as **Jake Sears** and **Jamar Hunt** combined to start every game last year.

Offensive Linemen This was the weakest part of the Miner offense last season, but expectations here are higher than they have been in years because of all the returning experience. Three guys expected to play major roles on the line — left guard **Cameron Raschke**, right guard **James Riley** and right tackle **Tyler Ribitzki** — all missed the spring with injuries, but the Miners were solid there anyway and expect to be stronger when the trio returns. Junior center **Robby**

Felix emerged as a leader of a group that is still fairly young, while Mike Aguayo is penciled in at left tackle. UTEP is confident there won't be much of a drop-off with the second team as well.

Defensive Linemen Looking for, and needing, immediate help in this area, the Miners signed a large junior college class, and this is where they need it the most. Junior left tackle James Olalekan had 13 tackles last season, and he's the only returning player who had more than five stops. Of the 11 players on the spring defensive line depth chart, Olalekan was the only returning upperclassmen, but junior college transfers Jason Boyce, JaBoy Leomiti and Charles Ofili could accelerate the rebuilding process. They join an undersized group that includes four sophomores and three freshmen. Sophomore tackles Chris Moore and Steve Riddick and sophomore end Dane O'Neill are the closest thing UTEP has to experience elsewhere.

Linebackers With such a green defensive line, the Miners will need to be strong in the back

seven, and there's plenty of reason to believe they will be. The decline of UTEP's defense in 2006 came when its soul, linebacker Jeremy Jones, left with a season-ending injury after making 24 tackles in the first two games. His return will represent a much-needed spark. Transfer Adam Vincent from Arizona State dominated in the spring when he quickly became a leader, and senior Emeri Spence is a veteran presence.



Defensive Backs This is another group that brings back the best playmakers from last season. Safety Quintin Dumps and cornerback Josh Ferguson emerged as leaders last season, as they combined for nine interceptions — seven by Dumps — and 125 tackles. Braxton Amy is making the move back to his original position of safety after starting at linebacker for several games last season, though he missed the spring with an injury. Cornelius Brown and Tim McCullouch both saw plenty of time last season at cornerback, and safety Roddray Walker was a standout in the spring.



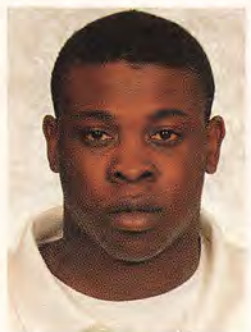
Joe West

RISING STAR

Sophomore **Fred Rouse** is the most

heralded recruit in UTEP history and almost certainly the biggest gamble. The transfer from Florida State played in the Orange Bowl following the 2005 season but was then kicked off the Seminole team

and now faces burglary and grand theft charges in Florida.



Specialists Though it hasn't generated the same level of attention that the quarterback situation has, the Miners are also completely starting over on the special teams. The only kicker on the roster in the spring, junior college transfer Jose Martinez, missed the entire spring with an injury, meaning the Miners couldn't even work on their kick coverage. The punter will be either Kyle Peterson or Greg Hiett, and whoever emerges at that spot will be making his first collegiate punt against New Mexico. The snapper will also be new, and the heir apparent at that position, Hunt, was healthy for only the first two practices of spring. Ferguson is the most experienced returner, though Rouse filled that role at Florida State.

(See Roster, Page 204)

OUTSIDE THE HUDDLE

The tech edge UTEP gained some national notoriety in the spring with its helmet cam — a camera attached to the helmet of a selected quarterback that showed exactly what he was looking at on each play. ESPN did a segment on the technology.

Instant impact The Miners went through the spring with six new junior college transfers and three transfers from other Division I-A schools. "A lot of times when you recruit transfers or junior college transfers, about one-third turn out to be worth a darn," coach Mike Price says. "But our transfers are good people. There are no renegades. All of those guys are going to help us. There isn't a miss in the bunch."

Productive injuries UTEP was worried that a rash of injuries that caused three offensive line starters to miss the spring was going to set back the evaluation of quarterbacks and running backs, but Price says the net effect ended up being positive. "It will probably help us with depth in the long run," Price says. "Right now, it's hard to see the positives, but some young offensive linemen are getting a lot of reps."

SCOUTING THE MINERS

Opposing coaches size up UTEP: "They run pretty well and they've got some warriors at linebacker. When their D-line runs the scheme, they play well on defense. When they freelance, they get in trouble. They're not all that physical, but they're fast and run to the ball pretty well. That's a good mix for our league because everybody tries to spread you out and match up one on one. ... I want to be nice, but man they were pitiful on offense. The quarterback got all the hype, but he turned it over all the time, made bad throws. Up front they were sloppy as hell. They just kind of got in your way, and that was when they wanted to play. Their skill guys are really fast. Mike's always gonna have a stud at receiver, and usually he's got one that can beat you by himself if he can get the ball. They do a good job with misdirection in their running game, and that's how they get you. They're very smart about running screens and double screens and throwbacks. They use their speed against your speed. They take a lot of shots over the top, but I would, too, if I had their receivers."

2007 HOUSTON ROSTER

Quarterbacks					
15	Joseph, Blake	QB	6'1"	195	So. Bryan, TX
7	Keenum, Case	QB	6'1"	183	Fr. Abilene, TX
Running Backs					
22	Alridge, Anthony	WR	5'9"	170	Sr. Denton, TX
29	Antoine, Randall	RB	5'10"	190	Fr. New Iberia, LA
13	Brewster, Justin	RB	5'9"	190	Jr. Longview, TX
38	Ebner, Jake	FB/TE	6'2"	280	Jr. Friendswood, TX
6	Kohn, Andre	RB	5'10"	185	Fr. Jacksonville, FL
40	Richard, Brandon	FB	5'10"	230	Fr. Houston, TX
33	Williams, Shomari	FB	6'2"	235	So. Brampton, ON
Receivers					
2	Avery, Donnie	WR	5'11"	190	Sr. Houston, TX
85	Boehm, Brian	TE	6'5"	250	Jr. Victoria, TX
16	Brown, Jordan	WR	5'11"	185	Sr. Houston, TX
10	Castile, L.J.	WR	6'3"	200	Fr. LaMarque, TX
8	Gilbert, Chris	WR	5'9"	175	So. Dallas, TX
5	Gleason, Brennan	WR	6'0"	195	Jr. Allen, TX
87	Hafner, Mark	TE	6'3"	230	Jr. Waller, TX
1	Harvey, Jeron	WR	6'5"	215	Sr. Jacksonville, FL
83	James, Ryan	WR	5'10"	180	Fr. Hewitt, TX
9	McDaniel, Perry	WR	5'9"	175	Sr. Lubbock, TX
24	Monroe, Tim	WR	6'2"	185	So. Mount Vernon, TX
19	Reasno, Reasno	WR	5'11"	180	Fr. Midland, TX
17	Rodriguez, Chaz	WR	6'2"	184	Fr. San Antonio, TX
18	Scourten, Wesley	TE	6'6"	210	Fr. Richardson, TX
Offensive Linemen					
75	Agson, Isaiah	G	6'3"	300	Jr. Houston, TX
77	Akeroyd, Jeff	G	6'3"	295	Sr. Lubbock, TX
60	Anderson, Jaryd	OL	6'4"	265	Fr. Anchorage, AK
57	Barnett, Carl	C	6'3"	275	So. Dickinson, TX
71	Bell, Josh	OL	6'6"	260	So. Hitchcock, TX
64	Bloesch, Michael	G	6'2"	305	Jr. Spring, TX
69	Butler, Jerrod	G	6'2"	330	So. Allen, TX
73	Dickinson, Dustin	T	6'3"	290	Sr. Springtown, TX
58	Eteuini, Naseri	C	6'4"	315	Jr. Manhattan, KS
79	Hart, Matt	T	6'6"	305	So. Huffman, TX
61	Jabsen, Travis	OL	6'2"	285	Fr. Cypress, TX
55	Parker, Matt	OL	6'2"	265	Fr. Stephenville, TX
74	Rogers, SirVincent	OL	6'3"	305	Sr. Jasper, TX
52	Shoemaker, Jordan	OL	6'4"	275	Fr. Midlothian, TX
59	Vollmer, Sebastian	T	6'8"	260	Jr. Kaarst, Germany
Defensive Linemen					
76	Agno, Fred	DL	6'2"	240	Sr. Houston, TX
48	Alake, Raymond	DT	6'4"	250	Fr. Arlington, TX
90	Ash, Eli	DT	6'5"	293	Jr. Willingboro, NJ
92	Hartford, Billy	DE	6'2"	260	Jr. Houston, TX
53	Hunt, Phillip	DE	6'2"	250	Jr. Fort Worth, TX
95	Lindsey, Jared	DL	6'3"	280	Jr. Alto, TX
56	Pree, Cody	NT	6'3"	290	Jr. Hooks, TX
91	Stewart, Tate	NT	6'3"	285	Jr. Katy, TX
97	Thompson, Isaiah	DL	6'4"	305	Fr. Tatum, TX
93	West, Brian	DE	6'4"	265	So. Beaumont, TX
Linebackers					
41	Allen, Trent	ILB	6'2"	244	Sr. Longview, TX
10	Atkins, Kenneth	OLB	6'2"	225	Sr. Houston, TX
50	Balias, Chris	LB	6'0"	195	Fr. Sugar Land, TX
46	Caden, Luke	LB	6'1"	228	So. Sugar Land, TX
40	Cavness, C.J.	ILB	6'0"	220	So. Santa Fe, TX
1	Francis, James	OLB	6'1"	215	Jr. LaMarque, TX
43	Graham, Tyrell	LB	6'3"	210	Jr. Houston, TX
34	Lubojasky, Cody	ILB	6'3"	230	Jr. Sugar Land, TX
45	Maxwell, Britton	LB	6'0"	205	So. Brownwood, TX
30	Nicholson, Matt	LB	6'2"	225	So. Plano, TX
3	Pahulu, Brendan	OLB	6'3"	230	Sr. Euless, TX
7	Pilot, Chris	OLB	6'1"	220	Jr. Lufkin, TX
4	Rideau, Rodney	ILB	6'1"	225	Jr. Port Arthur, TX
36	Rudd, J.T.	LB	6'2"	220	So. Cuero, TX
Defensive Backs					
15	Bean, Broderic	S	6'1"	215	So. Kirbyville, TX
23	Blackmon, Carson	DB	5'11"	170	So. Tatum, TX
21	Brinkley, Brandon	DB	6'0"	175	So. Bay City, TX
37	Fedorchak, Jake	S	6'0"	190	Fr. Lake Jackson, TX
28	Fontenette, Kenneth	CB	6'0"	180	Jr. Pflugerville, TX
9	Gonzales, Joseph	S	5'11"	200	Sr. Gonzales, TX
27	James, Stephen	S	5'10"	205	Jr. Houston, TX
26	Mangum, Kaison	DB	6'2"	190	Sr. LaMarque, TX
5	Miller, Ernest	S	6'0"	190	Jr. Taylor, TX
24	Payne, Dazmond	DB	5'11"	185	Jr. Crowley, TX
32	Robinson, Jamal	CB	5'10"	170	Fr. Schertz, TX
20	Schwartz, Rocky	S	5'11"	200	Sr. Bradenton, FL
12	Simon, Harry	CB	5'8"	175	Jr. Atlanta, GA
25	Williams, DeMaro	DB	5'9"	180	So. Dallas, TX
8	Williams, Quinte	CB	5'11"	170	Jr. Houston, TX
16	Williams, Teric	CB	5'10"	180	Fr. Omaha, TX
6	Yancy, Kellan	CB	6'0"	175	Sr. Los Angeles, CA
Specialists					
14	Ben, Ben	K	5'11"	175	Jr. Stephenville, TX
81	Juist, Norbie	LS	6'4"	240	Jr. Houston, TX
22	Lawrence, T.J.	K/P	6'1"	195	Sr. Mt. Pleasant, TX
45	Skinner, Tommy	P	6'4"	215	Fr. Houston, TX

PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE (5)

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
WR	1	Jeron Harvey	Sr.
WR	2	Donnie Avery	Sr.
SL	8	Chris Gilbert	So.
LT	79	Matt Hart	So.
LG	77	Jeff Akeroyd	Sr.
C	57	Carl Barnett	So.
RG	64	Michael Bloesch	Jr.
RT	73	Dustin Dickinson	Sr.
TE	87	Mark Hafner	Jr.
QB	15	Blake Joseph	So.
RB	22	Anthony Alridge	Sr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
WR	10	L.J. Castile	Fr.
WR	5	Brennan Gleason	Jr.
SL	9	Perry McDaniel	Sr.
LT	59	Sebastian Vollmer	Jr.
LG	69	Jerrod Butler	So.
C	58	Naseri Eteuini	Jr.
RG	75	Isaiah Agson	Jr.
RT		Rodney Brisbon	Jr.
TE	18	Wesley Scourten	Fr.
QB	7	Case Keenum	Fr.
RB	29	Randall Antoine	Fr.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE (7)

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
DE	53	Phillip Hunt	Jr.
NT	56	Cody Pree	Jr.
DT	90	Eli Ash	Jr.
OLB	3	Brendan Pahulu	Sr.
MLB	34	Cody Lubojasky	Jr.
WLB	41	Trent Allen	Sr.
ROV	27	Stephen James	Jr.
CB	8	Quinte Williams	Jr.
CB	28	Kenneth Fontenette	Jr.
SS	5	Ernest Miller	Jr.
FS	15	Broderic Bean	So.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
DE	93	Brian West	So.
NT	91	Tate Stewart	Jr.
DT	48	Raymond Alake	Fr.
OLB	7	Chris Pilot	Jr.
MLB	4	Rodney Rideau	Jr.
WLB	4	Rodney Rideau	Jr.
ROV	1	James Francis	Jr.
CB	23	Carson Blackmon	So.
CB	6	Kellan Yancy	Sr.
SS	20	Rocky Schwartz	Sr.
FS	9	Joseph Gonzales	Sr.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
K	14	Ben Bell	Jr.
P	45	Tommy Skinner	Fr.
KR	22	Anthony Alridge	Sr.
PR	16	Teric Williams	Fr.

Returning Starters in Bold

Head Coach: Art Briles

Record at School: 26-24 (4 years)

Career Record: 26-24 (4 years)

Offensive Coordinator: Art Briles

Defensive Coordinator: Alan Weddell

Houston, Texas

Robertson Stadium (32,000)

2007 SIGNEES

Cory Bailey	OL	6'5"	275	Brandon, MS
Ricardo Bates	DB	5'11"	170	Prattville, AL
Rodney Brisbon	OL	6'6"	330	Wetumpka, AL
A.J. Edwards	DB	6'1"	178	Brenham, TX
Naseri Eteuini	OL	6'4"	305	El Dorado, KS
Joseph Florence	WR	6'4"	200	LaMarque, TX
Justin Freeman	OL	6'3"	259	Cuero, TX
Terrance Ganaway	RB	6'0"	199	DeKalb, TX
Tyrell Graham	LB	6'3"	210	Houston, TX
Cedric Hall	DE	6'3"	230	Carthage, MS
Roisean Haynes	DB	5'11"	170	Converse, TX
B.K. Johnson	DB	6'0"	170	Silsbee, TX
Justin Johnson	ATH	6'1"	208	Richardson, TX
Demarcus Lattier	DT	6'2"	285	Garland, TX
Bakari Maxwell	WR	6'1"	170	Houston, TX
Loyce Means	DB	5'10"	156	Houston, TX
Bo Mosley	LB	6'2"	220	Friendswood, TX
Chad Mullen	OL	6'6"	270	Scurry, TX
Michael Ray	DL	6'2"	236	LaMarque, TX
Michael Sanchez	OL	6'2"	248	Sharyland, TX
E.J. Smith	WR	6'1"	185	Camden, MS
Chris Tate	WR	5'11"	176	Hempstead, TX
Ryan Tension	DB	5'10"	190	Dallas, TX
Chris Thompson	OL	6'3"	270	Hitchcock, TX
Tramaine Williams	DE	6'3"	255	Mobile, AL
Demetrius Woods	ATH	6'0"	170	Houston, TX

It should be obvious by the recruiting haul what the biggest area of need was — offensive line. With injuries to tackles SirVincent Rogers (knee, will redshirt) and Sebastian Vollmer (back), and guard Byron Alfred giving up the game to concentrate on a law degree, the Cougars needed bodies. They landed seven linemen, with immediate help coming from Naseri Eteuini, who was recruited as a center but will probably play tackle, and tackle Rodney Brisbon. The Cougars also targeted receivers, with Chris Tate and Joseph Florence highlighting a four-player crop.

2006 RESULTS

Record: 10-4 (7-1 C-USA)

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Att.
S. 2	at Rice	W	31-30	56,103
S. 9	Tulane	W	45-7	31,818
S. 16	Grambling	W	42-22	20,344
S. 23	Oklahoma State	W	34-25	20,350
S. 30	at Miami	L	13-14	22,452
O. 7	UL Lafayette	L	28-31	13,242
O. 14	at Southern Miss	L	27-31	18,154
O. 21	UTEP	W	34-17	32,317
O. 28	UCF	W	51-31	17,543
N. 4	Tulsa	W	27-10	36,107
N. 11	at SMU	W	37-27	28,260
N. 18	at Memphis	(ot) W	23-20	27,302
D. 1	Southern Miss	W	34-20	16,506
D. 29	#South Carolina	L	36-44	23,352
	#Liberty Bowl			

2006 INDIVIDUAL STATS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.
Kevin Kolb	432	292	3,809	30	4
Blake Joseph	8	6	56	0	1
Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
Anthony Alridge	95	959	10.1	8	
Jackie Battle	184	943	5.1	15	
Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
Vincent Marshall	80	979	12.2	8	
Donnie Avery	57	852	14.9	5	
Jeron Harvey	41	671	16.4	4	

Kicking: Ben Bell, 14-18 FGs, 51-53 XPs, 93 points

Tackles: Will Gulley, 105; Trent Allen, 95

Interceptions: Will Gulley, 5

Sacks: Phillip Hunt, 8

Returning Players in Bold

2007 RICE ROSTER

Quarterbacks	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
16 Clement, Chase	QB	6'1"	190	Jr.	Alamo Heights, TX
12 Mehrlinger, Drew	QB	6'0"	205	Fr.	Mansfield, TX
17 Shepherd, John	QB	6'1"	190	So.	El Dorado, AR
Running Backs	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
10 Bilaye-Benibo, Bio	RB	6'0"	215	Sr.	Corpus Christi, TX
26 Heard, Bubba	RB	5'11"	190	Sr.	Sinton, TX
27 Knox, Marcus	RB	5'9"	200	So.	Houston, TX
49 Marchbanks, Casey	RB	6'0"	200	So.	Austin, TX
28 Ugokwe, C.J.	RB	5'11"	220	So.	Plano, TX
Receivers	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
13 Armstrong, Joel	WR	5'11"	190	Sr.	Longview, TX
11 Beasley, Pierre	WR	6'3"	210	Fr.	Houston, TX
8 Dillard, Jarett	WR	5'11"	180	Jr.	San Antonio, TX
3 Dixon, Toren	WR	6'2"	220	So.	Baton Rouge, LA
18 Goodson, Jeremy	WR	5'9"	170	So.	Houston, TX
7 Henderson, Tommy	WR	5'9"	180	Jr.	Wichita Falls, TX
88 Moss, Will	TE	6'4"	255	Jr.	Bonham, TX
87 Novak, Andrew	WR	6'3"	215	So.	Ennis, TX
86 Shoppa, Will	TE	6'3"	230	Fr.	Fort Worth, TX
80 Smither, Corbin	WR	6'2"	220	So.	Southlake, TX
19 Sweeney, Ahmad	WR	5'10"	180	So.	Missouri City, TX
84 Wardlow, Taylor	TE	6'6"	205	So.	Grapevine, TX
82 Welch, John	WR	6'0"	180	So.	Gautier, MS
Offensive Linemen	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
61 Austin, Scott	T	6'3"	250	Sr.	Tyler, TX
68 Barber, Lute	T	6'7"	300	Sr.	Lubbock, TX
63 Berken, David	T	6'4"	295	Jr.	Lake Arthur, LA
57 Hamilton, Robby	G	6'3"	285	Jr.	Sugar Land, TX
72 Heos, Robby	G	6'4"	300	Sr.	Pearland, TX
60 Miller, Jimmy	G	6'3"	300	Jr.	Richmond, TX
54 Nimmons, Scott	OL	6'3"	260	So.	Houston, TX
52 Perkins, David	C/G	6'3"	285	Sr.	Seabrook, TX
67 Thompson, Preston	T	6'5"	290	So.	El Paso, TX
75 Vester, Cameron	OL	6'3"	255	Fr.	Haslet, TX
79 Wiebusch, Charlie	OL	6'3"	320	So.	McAllen, TX
73 Wilkinson, Austin	C	6'2"	270	Jr.	The Woodlands, TX
Defensive Linemen	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
90 Brooks, Victor	DE	6'4"	270	So.	Portland, TX
58 Cary, Jonathan	DT	6'3"	290	Sr.	Palestine, TX
40 Casey, James	DE	6'4"	230	Fr.	Azle, TX
99 Chukwu, George	DT	6'2"	300	Sr.	Houston, TX
21 Davis, Dietrich	DE	6'2"	245	Jr.	Brackettville, TX
96 Mason, Travis	DE	6'4"	275	So.	Oklahoma City, OK
91 Mohr, Todd	DT	6'1"	275	Jr.	Houston, TX
74 Ptaszek, Chris	DT	6'5"	300	Jr.	Houston, TX
Linebackers	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
35 Arceneaux, Jonathan	LB	6'0"	210	Fr.	Tyler, TX
42 Calhoun, Robert	LB	6'1"	220	So.	Duncanville, TX
59 Craig, Ryan	LB	5'10"	195	So.	Houston, TX
32 Garley, Willie	LB	5'11"	190	Fr.	Victoria, TX
34 Garmon, Terrance	LB	6'3"	215	So.	Tyler, TX
36 James, Vernon	LB	6'1"	220	Jr.	Spring, TX
31 Raines, Brian	LB	6'1"	220	Jr.	Missouri City, TX
Defensive Backs	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
14 Abt, Justin	S	6'0"	205	Sr.	San Antonio, TX
25 Agnew, Joseph	S	6'0"	200	So.	Southlake, TX
1 Anderson Jr., Gary	CB	6'0"	180	Sr.	Little Rock, AR
33 Anyiam, Max	S	6'2"	210	Fr.	Garland, TX
24 Douglas, Chris	CB	5'9"	175	So.	Fort Worth, TX
43 Kennedy, Ryan	DB	5'10"	190	Fr.	Abilene, TX
15 King, Brandon	CB	5'9"	180	Jr.	Moss Point, MS
6 Randolph, Patrick	DB	5'11"	170	Fr.	Tuscaloosa, AL
30 Sendejo, Andrew	S	6'2"	210	So.	Canyon Lake, TX
9 Shepherd, Ja'Corey	CB	5'11"	180	Jr.	Lufkin, TX
20 Smith, Bencil	S	5'11"	195	Jr.	Houston, TX
29 Taylor, Carl	S	6'1"	200	Jr.	Dallas, TX
23 Turner, Jon	DB	5'9"	200	Sr.	Plano, TX
38 White, Aubrey	DB	6'1"	200	Jr.	Thorndale, TX
Specialists	POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown
46 Fangmeier, Clark	K	5'11"	180	So.	Houston, TX
41 Juist, Luke	K/P	6'1"	210	Sr.	Houston, TX
51 Long, Brandon	LS	5'11"	230	Fr.	Deer Park, TX

PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE (8)

WR	81	Jarett Dillard	Jr.
WR	3	Toren Dixon	So.
WR	13	Joel Armstrong	Sr.
LT	63	David Berken	Jr.
LG	72	Robby Heos	Sr.
C	73	Austin Wilkinson	Jr.
RG	52	David Perkins	Sr.
RT	68	Lute Barber	Sr.
TE	84	Taylor Wardlow	So.
QB	16	Chase Clement	Jr.
RB	27	Marcus Knox	So.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

WR	80	Corbin Smither	So.
WR	11	Pierre Beasley	Fr.
WR	7	Tommy Henderson	Jr.
LT	61	Scott Austin	Sr.
LG	60	Jimmy Miller	Jr.
C	52	David Perkins	Sr.
RG	57	Robby Hamilton	Jr.
RT	67	Preston Thompson	So.
TE	88	Will Moss	Jr.
QB	17	John Shepherd	So.
RB	28	C.J. Ugokwe	So.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE (5)

DE	40	James Casey	Fr.
DT	99	George Chukwu	Sr.
DT	58	Jonathan Cary	Sr.
DE	21	Dietrich Davis	Jr.
LB	34	Terrance Garmon	So.
LB	31	Brian Raines	Jr.
CB	9	Ja'Corey Shepherd	Jr.
CB	15	Brandon King	Jr.
S	30	Andrew Sendejo	So.
S	20	Bencil Smith	Jr.
S	29	Carl Taylor	Jr.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

DE	90	Victor Brooks	So.
DT	74	Chris Ptaszek	Jr.
DT	91	Todd Mohr	Jr.
DE	96	Travis Mason	So.
LB	36	Vernon James	Jr.
LB	42	Robert Calhoun	So.
CB	1	Gary Anderson	Sr.
CB	24	Chris Douglas	So.
S	33	Max Anyiam	Fr.
S	25	Joseph Agnew	So.
S	14	Justin Abt	Sr.

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	46	Clark Fangmeier	So.
P	41	Luke Juist	Sr.
KR	24	Chris Douglas	So.
PR	9	Ja'Corey Shepherd	Jr.

Returning Starters In Bold

Head Coach: David Bailiff
Record at School: First Season
Career Record: 21-15 (3 years)
Offensive Coordinator: Tom Herman
Co-Defensive Coordinators:
 Chuck Driesbach, Craig Naivar
Houston, Texas • Rice Stadium (70,000)

2007 SIGNEES

Keyshawn Carrington	TE	6'3"	240	Missouri City, TX
Taylor Dupree	RB	6'1"	205	Mesquite, TX
Kody Emmert	OL	6'7"	240	Liberty Hills, TX
Michael Fuda	WR	6'0"	180	Katy, TX
Jake Hicks	OL	6'4"	265	Montgomery, TX
Justin Hill	RB	6'0"	200	Lake Dallas, TX
Brent Hotard	QB	6'2"	195	Round Rock, TX
Chris Jones	FS	6'3"	175	Arlington, TX
Randy Kitchens	QB	6'3"	190	Robinson, TX
Joseph Leary	DB	6'1"	180	Copperas Cove, TX
Kramer Lucio	DE	6'5"	240	Richardson, TX
Will Norris	ATH	6'1"	220	Plano, TX
Cheta Ozougwu	LB	6'3"	229	Houston, TX
Tyler Parish	OL	6'4"	290	Ardmore, OK
Davon Primus	T	6'3"	315	Humble, TX
Tanner Shuck	LB	5'11"	225	Jenks, OK
Tyler Smith	RB	5'8"	180	Cedar Park, TX
Scott Solomon	DE	6'3"	230	San Antonio, TX
Brian Stacey	DT	6'3"	255	Houston, TX
Cameron Thompson	DT	6'1"	275	Cedar Hill, TX
Brandon Tolbert	LB	6'0"	195	Texarkana, TX
Aaron Williams	LB	6'3"	210	Mesquite, TX

Given that he had less than three weeks to assemble his first recruiting class, David Bailiff worked wonders by keeping 12 of the 19 recruits who committed to the previous staff, then adding 10 of his own. The Owls were able to add two cogs to their secondary, including all-district safeties Joseph Leary and Chris Jones, but they failed to sign any impact cornerbacks, an area of significant need considering their lack of quality depth at the position. Bailiff shored up the defensive line with ends Kramer Lucio, Cheta Ozougwu and Scott Solomon, and tackles Brian Stacey and Cameron Thompson. Ultimately, linebacker Tanner Shuck and offensive tackle Kody Emmert might develop into the class jewels.

2006 RESULTS

Record: 7-6 (6-2 C-USA)

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Att.
S. 2	Houston	L	30-31	56,103
S. 9	at UCLA	L	16-26	46,023
S. 16	Texas	L	7-52	40,069
S. 23	at Florida State	L	7-55	78,154
S. 30	at Army	W	48-14	31,597
O. 7	at Tulane	L	24-38	15,064
O. 14	UAB	W	34-33	10,153
O. 21	at UCF	W	40-29	30,307
N. 4	at UTEP	W	37-31	42,685
N. 11	at Tulsa	(2ot) W	41-38	18,632
N. 18	East Carolina	W	18-17	12,669
N. 25	SMU	W	31-27	12,867
D. 22	#Troy	L	17-41	24,791

#New Orleans Bowl

2006 INDIVIDUAL STATS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.
Chase Clement	265	153	1,707	21	5
Joel Armstrong	145	85	948	8	9
Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
Quinton Smith	211	1,096	5.2	10	
Chase Clement	107	481	4.5	4	
Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
Jarett Dillard	91	1,247	13.7	21	
Quinton Smith	40	410	10.2	2	
Tommy Henderson	31	245	7.9	1	
Mike Falco	26	219	8.4	1	

Kicking: Clark Fangmeier, 8-11 FGs, 35-35 XPs, 59 points;

Luke Juist, 4-7 FGs, 3-4 XPs, 15 points

Tackles: Brian Raines, 118; Andray Downs, 88

Sacks: Courtney Gordon, 8

Interceptions: Four players tied with 2

Returning Players in Bold

2007 SMU ROSTER

Quarterbacks					
12	Slater, Corey	QB	6'2"	230	Jr. Seattle, WA
16	Willis, Justin	QB	6'1"	210	So. Denton, TX
Running Backs					
33	Butler, Chris	RB	5'10"	210	Fr. Brusly, TX
23	Dorsey, Cedrick	RB	5'11"	200	Sr. New Boston, TX
9	Henderson, Jessie	RB	5'9"	170	Jr. Paris, TX
20	Mapps, James	RB	5'10"	175	So. Royce City, TX
8	Martin, DeMyron	RB	6'2"	230	Jr. Allen, TX
1	Turner, Fred	RB	5'10"	195	Sr. Arlington, TX
Receivers					
30	Beckner, Jim	WR	5'10"	180	So. Nashville, TN
83	Brock, Jeff	TE	6'6"	240	So. Spearman, TX
85	Bryant, Josh	WR	5'8"	170	So. Belleville, TX
39	Burley, Phillip	WR	6'3"	210	Fr. Rosser, TX
86	Chase, Vincent	TE	6'5"	255	Jr. Irving, TX
18	Cleveland, JayMond	WR	5'11"	190	Sr. Baytown, TX
4	Givens, Columbus	WR	6'0"	175	Jr. Killeen, TX
34	Greenberg, Bruce	WR	5'7"	165	Fr. Columbia, SC
25	Hudrall, Morgan	WR	5'10"	162	Fr. Dallas, TX
3	Lowery, Devin	WR	5'11"	175	Sr. Grand Prairie, TX
45	McKinney, Andrew	TE	6'4"	265	Jr. Decatur, TX
26	Medford, A'Darius	WR	5'10"	175	Fr. Garland, TX
82	Michelsen, Austin	TE	6'4"	260	So. Arlington, TX
29	Moore, Shaun	WR	6'1"	180	Fr. Lake Forest, IL
22	Pritchard, Rob	WR	6'2"	200	Jr. Tulsa, OK
10	Rhodes, Zach	WR/QB	6'2"	205	Fr. New Braunfels, TX
17	Sanders, Emmanuel	WR	6'1"	170	So. Bellville, TX
84	Sledge, Zack	WR	5'11"	190	Sr. Midland, TX
1	Sullivan, Kyle	WR	6'0"	160	Fr. Mission Viejo, CA
65	Taylor, Jackson	TE	6'3"	245	Jr. Houston, TX
81	Walker, Mario	TE	6'2"	230	So. Marshall, TX
5	Zimmerman, Zach	WR	6'1"	165	So. Flower Mound, TX
Offensive Linemen					
76	Burley, Kenard	T	6'5"	310	Sr. Rosser, TX
55	DeLay, Lucky	T	6'4"	265	Sr. Irving, TX
51	Enright, Mitch	C	6'2"	275	So. Southlake, TX
75	Hickman, Josh	OL	6'3"	270	So. Rowlett, TX
62	Holmes, Joe	C	6'2"	295	Sr. Corsicana, TX
63	Lankford, Brad	G	6'4"	275	So. Waco, TX
74	Lobo, Sean	G	6'3"	295	Jr. Arlington, TX
72	Nigh, Ross	OL	6'5"	295	So. Cuero, TX
50	Peveto, Caleb	G	6'4"	290	Sr. Highland Village, TX
66	Poynter, Ben	T	6'4"	290	Sr. Arlington, TX
67	Poynter, Tommy	G	6'4"	275	Jr. Irving, TX
58	Pryor, Dominic	OL	6'5"	280	Sr. Red Oak, TX
64	Smith, Chase	T	6'4"	295	So. Flower Mound, TX
Defensive Linemen					
45	Babcock, Bobby	DE	6'2"	240	Fr. Glen Allen, VA
92	Berry, Charlie	DT	6'3"	280	Sr. Dallas, TX
82	Crockett, Calvin	DE	6'2"	255	Fr. Grand Prairie, TX
57	DeGroat, Kyle	DL	6'0"	270	Fr. Dallas, TX
98	Dizer, Adrian	DE	6'6"	250	So. Clarksville, TX
95	Dollens, Mickey	DL	6'3"	260	Fr. Bartlesville, OK
96	Geldert, Josh	DE	6'3"	230	Fr. Dallas, TX
91	Griffin, Kyle	DE	6'4"	230	Jr. Colleyville, TX
94	Handy, Patrick	DE	6'2"	250	Jr. Spring, TX
90	Hughes, Rush	DE	6'3"	220	Fr. Richardson, TX
49	Johnson, Jordan	DE	6'3"	245	Fr. Carrollton, TX
56	Leonard, Ryan	NG	6'0"	285	Fr. Lewisville, TX
11	Muse, Cory	DE	6'3"	250	Sr. Oklahoma City, OK
93	Parham, Chris	NG	6'3"	295	Fr. Fort Worth, TX
40	Smart, Justin	DE	6'4"	225	Fr. Marshall, TX
46	Thomas, Zac	DT	6'4"	260	Fr. Stephenville, TX
Linebackers					
54	Bon, Taylor	LB	6'3"	210	Fr. Kingwood, TX
27	Bonilla, Will	LB	5'11"	205	Jr. Corpus Christi, TX
53	Carrington, Reggie	MLB	6'2"	240	Sr. Tomball, TX
52	Fleps, Pete	LB	6'2"	220	Fr. Southlake, TX
43	Garcy, Dan	LB	6'1"	225	So. Danville, CA
38	Hawkins, Tony	SLB	6'1"	210	Sr. Longview, TX
44	Hurst, Damon	MLB	6'0"	215	Sr. Waco, TX
23	Jackson, Jason	LB	6'0"	220	Fr. Little Rock, AR
47	Johnson, Brett	LB	6'1"	210	Jr. Houston, TX
29	Kennemer, Chase	LB	6'0"	215	Jr. Arlington, TX
5	McCray, Wilton	WLB	6'0"	205	Sr. LaMarque, TX
39	Moczygemba, Ryan	LB	6'1"	205	Fr. Bulverde, TX
55	Nwisiem, John	LB	5'11"	220	Fr. Dallas, TX
42	Sowe, Anthony	LB	6'2"	215	Fr. Denton, TX
43	Strodtman, Patrick	LB	6'0"	240	Fr. Flower Mound, TX
Defensive Backs					
23	Burgess, Russell	DB	5'10"	175	Fr. Plano, TX
20	Courtney, Chase	DB	5'10"	180	Fr. Alexandria, LA
35	Crosby, Tim	DB	5'11"	170	Fr. Garland, TX
10	Dennis, Rock	FS	5'10"	175	Jr. Leavenworth, KS
24	Ellis, K.J.	DB	6'2"	205	So. Arlington, TX
14	Emerson, D.J.	DB	5'11"	185	Fr. Brookshire, TX
7	Haynes, David	FS	5'9"	190	Jr. McGregor, TX
28	Hudman, Bryce	SS	6'2"	200	So. Spring, TX
25	Johnson, La'Cori	DB	5'9"	165	Jr. Atlanta, TX
22	Jones, Brandon	CB	6'0"	170	Sr. Arlington, TX
41	Jones, Tyler	DB	6'1"	180	Fr. Emory, TX
21	Lindley, Jonathan	CB	6'0"	190	Sr. Sulphur Springs, TX
6	McCann, Bryan	CB	6'0"	175	So. Oklahoma City, OK
33	Sloan, Benson	SS	6'1"	190	So. Nashville, TN
Specialists					
59	Bennett, Sam	LS	6'1"	250	So. Dallas, TX
4	Cunningham, Kellis	P/K	5'11"	180	So. Carrollton, TX
11	Galloway, Andrew	P	6'4"	230	Jr. Manhattan, KS
18	Harris, Brayden	P/K	5'11"	195	Jr. Austin, TX
24	McCary, Russ	P	6'1"	180	Fr. The Woodlands, TX
15	Morstead, Thomas	P/K	6'5"	215	Jr. Pearland, TX

PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE (6)

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
WR	3	Devin Lowery	Sr.
WR	17	Emmanuel Sanders	So.
WR	84	Zack Sledge	Sr.
LT	66	Ben Poynter	Sr.
LG	74	Sean Lobo	Jr.
C	51	Mitch Enright	So.
RG	50	Caleb Peveto	Sr.
RT	76	Kenard Burley	Sr.
TE	86	Vincent Chase	Jr.
QB	16	Justin Willis	So.
RB	8	DeMyron Martin	Jr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
WR	5	Zach Zimmerman	So.
WR	25	Morgan Hudnall	Fr.
WR	10	Zach Rhodes	Fr.
LT	64	Chase Smith	So.
LG	67	Tommy Poynter	Jr.
C	62	Joe Holmes	Sr.
RG	63	Brad Lankford	So.
RT	55	Lucky DeLay	Sr.
TE	45	Andrew McKinney	Jr.
QB	12	Corey Slater	Jr.
RB	20	James Mapps	So.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE (5)

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
DE	94	Patrick Handy	Jr.
DT	92	Charlie Berry	Sr.
NG	93	Chris Parham	Fr.
DE	11	Cory Muse	Sr.
SLB	38	Tony Hawkins	Sr.
MLB	53	Reggie Carrington	Sr.
WLB	5	Wilton McCray	Sr.
CB	6	Bryan McCann	So.
CB	21	Jonathan Lindley	Sr.
SS	28	Bryce Hudman	So.
FS	10	Rock Dennis	Jr.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
DE	40	Justin Smart	Fr.
DT	46	Zac Thomas	Fr.
NG	56	Ryan Leonard	Fr.
DE	91	Kyle Griffin	Jr.
SLB	27	Will Bonilla	Jr.
MLB	44	Damon Hurst	Sr.
WLB	27	Will Bonilla	Jr.
CB	22	Brandon Jones	Sr.
CB	22	Brandon Jones	Sr.
SS	33	Benson Sloan	So.
FS	7	David Haynes	Jr.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
K	15	Thomas Morstead	Jr.
P	15	Thomas Morstead	Jr.
KR	9	Jessie Henderson	Jr.
PR	17	Emmanuel Sanders	So.

Returning Starters in Bold

Head Coach: Phil Bennett

Record at School: 17-41 (5 years)

Career Record: 17-41 (5 years)

Offensive Coordinator: Rusty Burns

Defensive Coordinator: Jim Gush

Dallas, Texas

Gerald J. Ford Stadium (32,000)

2007 SIGNEES

De'Von Bailey	S/WR	6'2"	200	Lawton, OK
Kelvin Beachum, Jr.	OL	6'3"	270	Mexia, TX
Derrius Bell	CB	5'10"	165	Dallas, TX
Rodney Bradley	WR	6'0"	178	Dallas, TX
J.T. Brooks	OL	6'5"	310	Arlington, TX
Szymon Czerniak	DT	6'5"	236	Houston, TX
Rock Dennis	S	5'10"	185	Leavenworth, KS
D.J. Emerson	DB	5'10"	170	Brookshire, TX
Patrick Fleming	TE	6'4"	220	Houston, TX
Ben Goldthorpe	DL	6'2"	240	Denton, TX
Bradley Haynes	WR	6'3"	203	Mansfield, TX
Julian Herron	LB	6'0"	205	Arlington, TX
Jamell Kennedy	WR	5'11"	165	Gilmer, TX
Ryan Leonard	DT	6'1"	292	Lewisville, TX
Josh LeRibeus	OL	6'4"	325	Richardson, TX
Derek Lilly	OL	6'2"	297	Mansfield, TX
Aldrick Robinson	WR	5'10"	170	Waxahachie, TX
Josh Robinson	DE	6'4"	235	Garland, TX
Bryce Tension	OL	6'3"	298	Austin, TX
Kelly Turner	OL	6'3"	280	Dallas, TX
Logan Turner	QB	6'0"	180	Springtown, TX
Terrance Wilkerson	ATH	5'11"	170	DeSoto, TX
Youri Yenga	LB/DE	6'2"	220	Eules, TX

SMU addressed its needs — loading up on offensive and defensive linemen, wide receivers and defensive backs — and inked a prep standout from Oklahoma. The Mustangs signed safety/receiver De'Von Bailey from Eisenhower High in Lawton, Okla. Bailey was listed by several recruiting services as one of the top three receiving prospects in the state. He caught 41 passes for 669 yards and five touchdowns as a senior and was an outstanding defensive back. SMU coach Phil Bennett also got immediate help in defensive back Rock Dennis, a safety from Garden City (Kan.) Community College. Dennis, who quickly settled into the starting free safety spot in the spring, was extremely active at Garden City. The Mustangs also were pleased with the addition of offensive lineman Josh LeRibeus from Richardson Berkner High. LeRibeus was considered one of top 25 linemen in the state.

2006 RESULTS

Record: 6-6 (4-4 C-USA)

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Att.
S. 2	at Texas Tech	L	3-35	50,362
S. 9	at North Texas	L	6-24	25,231
S. 16	Sam Houston State	W	45-14	17,421
S. 23	Arkansas State	W	55-9	12,979
S. 30	at Tulane	W	33-28	21,565
O. 7	at UTEP	L	21-24	41,258
O. 14	Marshall	W	31-21	14,032
O. 21	at East Carolina	L	21-38	34,141
O. 31	UAB	W	22-9	13,125
N. 11	Houston	L	27-37	20,350
N. 18	Tulsa	W	34-24	14,658
N. 25	at Rice	L	27-31	12,867

2006 INDIVIDUAL STATS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.
Justin Willis	270	182	2,047	26	6
Corey Slater	44	20	209	2	4
Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
DeMyron Martin	92	369	4.0	0	
Justin Willis	132	354	2.7	3	
Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
Emmanuel Sanders	46	605	13.2	9	
Bobby Chase	37	507	13.7	3	
Reynaldo Pellerin	30	196	6.5	3	

Kicking: Thomas Morstead, 13-18 FGs, 34-35 XPs, 73 points

Tackles: Joe Sturdivant, 109, Reggie Carrington, 80

Sacks: Justin Rogers, 9.5

Interceptions: Devin Lowery, 3

Returning Players in Bold

2007 TULSA ROSTER

Quarterbacks					
POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	
6 Harrell, Clark	QB	6'2"	190	Fr.	Ennis, TX
5 Johnson, David	QB	6'2"	217	Jr.	Portland, OR
12 Smith, Paul	QB	6'2"	193	Sr.	Owasso, OK
Running Backs					
POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	
25 Adams, Tarrion	RB	6'1"	204	Jr.	Moore, OK
82 Frank, Jacob	HB	6'1"	233	Jr.	Houston, TX
22 Johnson, Aaron	RB	5'9"	190	Jr.	Tulsa, OK
1 Madison, Cody	HB	6'3"	239	Sr.	Chickasha, OK
20 Tennial, Courtney	RB	5'9"	220	Sr.	Glenpool, OK
23 Williams, Jamad	RB	5'9"	193	Fr.	Midwest City, OK
Receivers					
POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	
41 Cawyer, Logan	TE	6'4"	234	Fr.	Commerce, OK
43 Clemons, Cameron	WR	5'11"	180	Sr.	Anaheim, CA
86 Collums, Jake	TE	6'4"	236	So.	Enid, OK
30 Curtis, Ted	TE	6'1"	242	Sr.	Moore, OK
48 Detwiler, Kyle	TE	6'2"	229	Fr.	Tulsa, OK
85 Grooms, Kyle	WR	6'3"	205	Sr.	Englewood, CO
9 Heinz, Corey	WR	5'11"	161	So.	Lone Tree, CO
16 Henderson, Nick	WR	6'0"	175	Jr.	Kansas City, KS
18 Kizer, Corey	WR	6'2"	210	Sr.	Memphis, TN
84 Meyer, Jesse	WR	6'3"	198	So.	Jenks, OK
4 Morrell, Daniel	WR	6'1"	186	Fr.	Blanchard, OK
21 Nelson, Kyle	TE	6'2"	226	Fr.	Waco, TX
39 Pistoia, Tyler	WR	6'0"	182	Fr.	Long Beach, CA
87 Polk, Stephen	WR	6'1"	195	Fr.	Dallas, TX
46 Sullivan, Mike	TE	6'3"	238	So.	Highlands Ranch, CO
15 Toliver, Dion	WR	5'10"	175	Jr.	Riverside, CA
58 Young, Kyle	WR	6'6"	220	So.	Turpin, OK
Offensive Linemen					
POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	
56 Boyd, Walter	T	6'2"	317	Sr.	Shawnee, OK
68 DeWitt, Ronnie	OL	6'5"	260	Fr.	Lake Austin, TX
59 Holmes, Tyler	T	6'3"	299	Fr.	Ottawa, ON
53 Morsey, Justin	G	6'2"	282	Jr.	Sapulpa, OK
76 Puckett, Curt	G	6'3"	305	So.	Coweta, OK
70 Thomas, Rodrick	T	6'4"	347	Jr.	Oklahoma City, OK
72 Washington, Brandon	G	6'3"	315	Fr.	Cedar Hill, TX
65 Whaley, Jody	C	6'3"	302	So.	Comanche, OK
77 Whitlow, Wade	G/T	6'4"	310	Sr.	Clute, TX
61 Wike, Travis	C	6'4"	279	So.	Wichita, KS
Defensive Linemen					
POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	
57 Bell, Jon	DL	6'1"	255	Fr.	Shreveport, LA
50 Detwiler, Alex	DE	6'1"	217	Sr.	Tulsa, OK
97 Egbuniwe, Anthony	DE	6'4"	240	So.	Greenville, SC
39 Floyd, Popsie	DE	6'1"	250	So.	Tulsa, OK
52 Godfrey, Cedric	DE	6'1"	243	So.	Cedar Hill, TX
93 Hopkins, Moton	DE	6'3"	275	Jr.	Converse, TX
90 Jones, Brandon	NG	6'2"	297	Sr.	Duncanville, TX
49 McAlester, Jeph	DE	6'3"	225	Jr.	Tulsa, OK
99 Nemons, Terrel	NG	6'4"	345	Jr.	Cedar Hill, TX
94 Scarbrough, Tyler	DE	6'3"	240	Fr.	Stillwater, OK
98 Scott, Kenny	NG	6'1"	324	Fr.	Anderson, SC
58 Taylor, Skyler	NG	6'0"	269	So.	Tulsa, OK
Linebackers					
POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	
40 Antle, Tanner	WLB	6'4"	200	Fr.	Foyil, OK
43 Bryan, Mike	MLB	6'1"	215	So.	Coweta, OK
32 Chamberlain, Chris	SLB	6'2"	225	Sr.	Bethany, OK
8 Clinkscale, George	LB	6'0"	241	So.	Cedar Hill, TX
55 Coleman, Nelson	MLB	6'2"	235	Sr.	Dallas, TX
26 Gobert, Donald	SLB	6'3"	180	Fr.	Crockett, TX
44 Karatepeyan, Alain	WLB	6'1"	250	Sr.	Chatsworth, CA
42 Piorkowski, Jon	LB	6'2"	221	Jr.	St. Louis, MO
Defensive Backs					
POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	
19 Burris, Josh	FS	5'10"	186	So.	Garland, TX
18 Cox, Corey	DB	5'8"	150	Fr.	Denver, CO
6 Craver, Steve	BAN	6'1"	212	Sr.	Hurst, TX
28 Cuffee, Drew	DB	5'8"	177	Fr.	Arlington, TX
24 Davis, Charles	CB	5'9"	165	So.	Fort Worth, TX
7 Duncan, Randy	FS	6'2"	188	Jr.	Mesquite, TX
3 Germany, Anthony	SS	6'1"	211	Sr.	Oklahoma City, OK
37 Lockett, James	DB	5'11"	192	So.	Arlington, TX
46 Page, Ty	BAN	6'2"	220	Jr.	Lufkin, TX
38 Penelton, Jonathan	SS	6'0"	214	So.	Dallas, TX
10 Roberts, Roy	CB	5'11"	205	Jr.	Ardmore, OK
27 Sims, Kenny D.	CB	5'11"	189	Fr.	Florissant, SC
25 Smith, Anthony	DB	5'8"	189	Fr.	Webster, TX
21 Thomas, Terrance	CB	5'10"	175	Sr.	Gordon, AL
Specialists					
POS	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	
70 Bridge, Alexander	P	5'10"	205	So.	Los Alamos, NM
43 Jaworski, Robert	K	6'1"	178	Jr.	Milledgeville, GA
48 Jurado, Paul	P	6'1"	195	Jr.	Chino, CA
29 Tracy, Jarod	K	6'0"	165	Jr.	Aledo, TX
51 Warren, John	LS	6'0"	215	Jr.	Phoenix, AZ

PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE (3)

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
WR	84	Jesse Meyer	So.
WR	15	Dion Toliver	Jr.
WR	16	Nick Henderson	Jr.
LT	56	Walter Boyd	Sr.
LG	76	Curt Puckett	So.
C	65	Jody Whaley	So.
RG	53	Justin Morsey	Jr.
RT	70	Rodrick Thomas	Jr.
TE	30	Ted Curtis	Sr.
QB	12	Paul Smith	Sr.
RB	20	Courtney Tennial	Sr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
WR	18	Corey Kizer	Sr.
WR	13	Cameron Clemons	Sr.
WR	87	Stephen Polk	Fr.
LT	59	Tyler Holmes	Fr.
LG	72	Brandon Washington	Fr.
C	61	Travis Wike	So.
RG	77	Wade Whitlow	Sr.
RT	77	Wade Whitlow	Sr.
TE	86	Jake Collums	So.
QB	5	David Johnson	Jr.
RB	25	Tarrion Adams	Jr.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE (6)

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
DE	97	Anthony Egbuniwe	So.
NG	99	Terrel Nemons	Jr.
DE	93	Moton Hopkins	Jr.
SLB	32	Chris Chamberlain	Sr.
MLB	55	Nelson Coleman	Sr.
WLB	44	Alain Karatepeyan	Sr.
CB	24	Charles Davis	So.
CB	10	Roy Roberts	Jr.
BAN	6	Steve Craver	Sr.
SS	3	Anthony Germany	Sr.
FS	7	Randy Duncan	Jr.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
DE	94	Tyler Scarbrough	Fr.
NG	90	Brandon Jones	Sr.
DE	49	Jeph McAlester	Jr.
SLB	26	Donald Gobert	Fr.
MLB	43	Mike Bryan	So.
WLB	40	Tanner Antle	Fr.
CB	27	Kenny D. Sims	Fr.
CB	21	Terrance Thomas	Sr.
BAN	46	Ty Page	Jr.
SS	38	Jonathan Penelton	So.
FS	19	Josh Burris	So.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
K	29	Jarod Tracy	Jr.
P	48	Paul Jurado	Jr.
KR	24	Charles Davis	So.
PR	24	Charles Davis	So.

Returning Starters in Bold

Head Coach: Todd Graham

Record at School: First Season

Career Record: 7-6 (1 year)

Co-Offensive Coordinators:

Herb Hand, Gus Malzahn

Co-Defensive Coordinators:

Keith Patterson, Paul Randolph

Tulsa, Okla. • Skelly Stadium (35,542)

2007 SIGNEES

Eliot Allen	DE	6'2"	222	Allen, TX
Cornelius Arnick	LB	6'1"	213	Dallas, TX
Tyree Bullock	CB	5'10"	170	Durham, NC
Charles Clay	RB	6'3"	222	Little Rock, AR
C.J. Chaten	WR	5'9"	180	Dardanelle, AR
Genesis Cole	S	6'1"	178	Little Rock, AR
Ramarcus Dickerson	DT	6'2"	254	Douglassville, TX
Chris Ford	WR	6'2"	186	Fort Worth, TX
Wilson Holloway	OL	6'6"	255	Edmond, OK
Tyler Holmes	OL	6'3"	299	Ottawa, ON
Mike Johnson	QB	6'1"	208	Durham, NC
Trae Johnson	WR	5'11"	170	Grand Prairie, TX
Charles Opeseyitan	RB	5'10"	193	Allen, TX
Darrell Pasco	CB	5'10"	170	Tarpon Springs, FL
Odrick Ray	DE	6'3"	220	Athens, TX
Aaron Ringle	OL	6'4"	250	Sand Springs, OK
Rashad Robinson	LB	6'1"	230	McKinney, TX
Kenny Sims	LB	6'0"	221	Arlington, TX
Reid Singleton	CB	5'10"	170	Fort Worth, TX
Wayne Thompson	DL	5'11"	299	Cedar Hill, TX
Dion Toliver	WR	5'10"	175	Riverside, CA
Tory Tyner	CB	6'1"	174	Cedar Hill, TX
Jacoby Veals	DL	6'1"	262	Dallas, TX
Brandon Washington	OL	6'3"	315	Cedar Hill, TX
Clint Whitley	OL	6'2"	281	Hattiesburg, MS
A.J. Whitmore	WR	5'9"	170	Nashville, AR

Todd Graham says his first recruiting season was "really hectic," but also was fruitful. "We need to see ourselves as a big-time program, and to do that, we have to go after big-time players," Graham says. That includes running back Charles Clay, who reportedly turned down Miami and Arkansas, running back Charles Opeseyitan and wideout A.J. Whitmore, who could be good enough to play as freshmen. The greatest positions of need were addressed: wide receivers (five), offensive linemen (five) and cornerbacks (four).

2006 RESULTS

Record: 8-5 (5-3 C-USA)

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Att.
A. 31	Stephen F. Austin	W	45-7	23,308
S. 9	at BYU	L	24-49	56,627
S. 16	North Texas	W	28-3	22,045
S. 23	at Navy	(ot) W	24-23	31,604
O. 3	Southern Miss	W	20-6	20,625
O. 14	at East Carolina	W	31-10	34,011
O. 21	at Memphis	W	35-14	30,059
O. 27	UTEP	W	30-20	28,074
N. 4	at Houston	L	10-27	22,452
N. 11	Rice	(2ot) L	38-41	18,632
N. 18	at SMU	L	24-34	14,658
N. 24	Tulane	W	38-3	15,502
D. 23	#Utah	L	13-25	32,412

Armed Forces Bowl

2006 INDIVIDUAL STATS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.
Paul Smith	350	233	2,727	15	9
David Johnson	14	9	180	1	0
Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
Courtney Tennial	171	845	4.9	14	
Tarrion Adams	68	329	4.8	2	
Brandon Diles	64	301	4.7	3	
Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
Idris Moss	58	803	13.8	1	
Ryan Bugg	45	617	13.7	4	
Tarrion Adams	31	362	11.7	1	

Kicking: Jarod Tracy, 11-12 FGs, 43-45 XPs, 76 points

Tackles: Nelson Coleman, 98; Nick Bunting, 75

Sacks: Robert Latu, 6

Interceptions: Bobby Blackshire, 4

Returning Players in Bold

2007 UTEP ROSTER

Quarterbacks					
Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	
7 Dew, Brandis	QB	6'5"	265	So.	Hemet, CA
10 Thomas, James II	QB	5'11"	190	So.	Palestine, TX
10 Vittatoe, Trevor	QB	6'2"	210	Fr.	Bedford, TX
15 Wright, Kyle	QB	6'1"	195	So.	Santa Rosa, CA
Running Backs					
Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	
30 Buckram, Donald	RB	5'10"	180	So.	Copperas Cove, TX
31 Contreras, Austin	RB	5'10"	200	Fr.	El Paso, TX
21 Jackson, Terrell	RB	5'9"	195	Jr.	Moreno Valley, CA
28 Mendoza, Eddie	RB	5'11"	205	Fr.	El Paso, TX
8 Thomas, Marcus	RB	6'1"	215	Sr.	Phoenix, AZ
34 Williams, Jason	RB	5'11"	200	So.	Tyler, TX
Receivers					
Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	
2 Adams, Kris	WR	6'3"	190	Fr.	Fort Worth, TX
80 Darden, Kye	WR	5'11"	175	Fr.	Brownwood, TX
19 Davis, Evan	WR	6'1"	185	Fr.	Los Angeles, CA
12 Day, Chris	WR	5'9"	180	Jr.	El Paso, TX
82 Diaz, Brian	WR	5'10"	195	Fr.	El Paso, TX
87 Hunt, Jamar	TE	6'7"	250	Jr.	Mesa, AZ
11 Hunter, Pierce	WR	6'5"	220	Fr.	National City, CA
16 Jordan, Brandon	WR	6'2"	210	Fr.	Missouri City, TX
86 Moore, Jonny	TE	6'5"	240	Fr.	San Antonio, TX
18 Moturi, Jeff	WR	6'0"	185	So.	Irving, TX
1 Rouse, Fred	WR	6'3"	195	So.	Tallahassee, FL
3 Sam, Lorne	QB/WR	6'3"	215	Sr.	Buford, GA
37 Sears, Jake	TE	6'3"	255	Sr.	Fredericksburg, TX
88 Shadrawy, Tufick	WR	6'2"	185	So.	Arlington, TX
4 West, Joe	WR	6'2"	210	Sr.	Garland, TX
Offensive Linemen					
Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	
71 Aquayo, Mike	T	6'4"	285	So.	Lakewood, CA
75 Cousins, Oniel	T	6'4"	305	Sr.	Fullerton, CA
79 Cullumber, Tanner	C	6'4"	295	Fr.	Chandler, AZ
62 Felix, Robby	C	6'3"	295	Jr.	Corona, CA
72 Garcia, Daniel	OL	6'3"	330	So.	El Paso, TX
69 Henckel, Troy	OL	6'4"	295	Fr.	El Paso, TX
74 Huntley, Rod	OL	6'3"	305	Fr.	Arlington, TX
68 Jones, Marcus	OL	6'2"	330	So.	Miramar, FL
57 Littleford, Stephen	OL	6'2"	320	Jr.	Las Vegas, NV
65 McNac, Anthony	G	6'4"	350	So.	Lancaster, TX
64 Meek, Colby	G	6'4"	305	So.	Keller, TX
78 Raschke, Cameron	G	6'4"	330	So.	Kerrville, TX
77 Ribitzki, Tyler	T	6'5"	305	Jr.	Burleson, TX
73 Riley, James	G	6'3"	300	Sr.	Addison, TX
70 Solot, Alex	T	6'8"	330	Fr.	Tucson, AZ
66 Stout, Ty	OL	6'5"	280	So.	Amarillo, TX
Defensive Linemen					
Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	
43 Amezaga, Jorge	DE	6'0"	260	Jr.	El Paso, TX
93 Boyce, Jason	DE	6'4"	250	Jr.	Jamaica, NY
41 Davis, Elijah	DE	6'1"	235	So.	Seattle, WA
85 Goldtrap, Elijah	DL	6'5"	275	Fr.	Los Angeles, CA
32 Goodwell, Landon	DE	6'2"	250	So.	West Covina, CA
51 Hernandez, Ben	DL	6'0"	330	Fr.	El Paso, TX
56 Leomiti, JaBoy	DT	6'3"	270	Jr.	Anaheim, CA
99 Moore, Chris	DT	6'2"	285	So.	Houston, TX
92 O'Neill, Dane	DE	6'3"	240	So.	Chino Hills, CA
97 Ofili, Charles	DE	6'3"	295	Jr.	Houston, TX
91 Olalekan, James	DT	6'2"	285	Jr.	Texas City, TX
54 Osolinsky, Will	DL	6'7"	250	Fr.	Phoenix, AZ
95 Riddick, Steve	DT	5'11"	270	So.	El Paso, TX
13 Soleyjacks, Robert	DE	6'2"	255	Fr.	San Diego, CA
Linebackers					
Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	
59 Douglas, Scott	LB	6'1"	210	Fr.	Anaheim, CA
55 Douglas, Steve	LB	6'1"	230	Sr.	Anaheim, CA
29 Fematt, Josh	LB	6'0"	215	Sr.	Socorro, TX
8 Huckaby, Torrey	VLB	6'2"	215	Sr.	Phoenix, AZ
6 Jones, Jeremy	VLB	6'1"	240	Sr.	San Jose, CA
40 Kirkland, Alan	LB	6'1"	240	So.	Cedar Park, TX
48 Macias, Abiel	LB	5'11"	230	Sr.	El Paso, TX
19 Monroe, T.J.	LB	6'1"	225	Sr.	San Jose, CA
7 Punimata, Nuuese	SLB	6'1"	220	Jr.	Pago Pago, Am. Samoa
22 Sims, Aaron	LB	6'1"	210	So.	Fort Worth, TX
52 Smith, Royzell	LB	6'1"	200	Fr.	Missouri City, TX
34 Spence, Emeri	SLB	6'0"	220	Sr.	Garland, TX
5 Vincent, Adam	MLB	6'3"	245	Jr.	Chandler, AZ
17 Wilkins, Brian	MLB	6'2"	220	So.	Tustin, CA
Defensive Backs					
Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	
25 Adame, Saul	DB	5'10"	180	Fr.	El Paso, TX
14 Amy, Braxton	SS	6'0"	195	So.	Richmond, TX
33 Arellano, Ray	DB	5'10"	185	Fr.	El Paso, TX
47 Brown, Cornelius	CB	5'11"	190	So.	Houston, TX
20 Castleberry, Lance	DB	5'9"	185	So.	Dallas, TX
4 Cromartie-Smith, Da'Mon	SS	6'2"	205	So.	Riverside, CA
9 Demps, Quintin	FS	6'1"	205	Sr.	San Antonio, TX
24 Ellis, Matt	DB	6'0"	210	Sr.	Fullerton, CA
2 Ferguson, Josh	CB	5'9"	180	Sr.	Hayward, CA
15 Johnson, Lovell	DB	5'9"	175	Jr.	Pasadena, CA
30 Jordan, Jamie	DB	6'1"	240	So.	El Paso, TX
3 McCullough, Tim	CB	5'11"	190	Sr.	Long Beach, CA
23 McShane, Matt	DB	5'10"	185	Fr.	Portland, OR
11 Morrow, Anthony	FS	5'11"	200	Fr.	Fallbrook, CA
12 Stephenson II, Melvin	CB	5'10"	185	So.	Grand Prairie, TX
26 Walker, Roddray	DB	6'1"	210	Jr.	Schertz, TX
27 Williams, Tony	DB	6'3"	205	Jr.	Columbia, SC
Specialists					
Pos	HT	WT	CL	Hometown	
98 Hiett, Greg	P	6'5"	210	So.	San Antonio, TX
15 Martinez, Jose	K	5'10"	200	Jr.	San Jose, CA
14 Petersen, Kyle	P/K	6'4"	220	Fr.	Alta Loma, CA

PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE (7)

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
WR	4	Joe West	Sr.
WR	18	Jeff Moturi	So.
WR	3	Lorne Sam	Sr.
LT	71	Mike Aguayo	So.
LG	78	Cameron Raschke	So.
C	62	Robby Felix	Jr.
RG	73	James Riley	Sr.
RT	77	Tyler Ribitzki	Jr.
TE	37	Jake Sears	Sr.
QB	10	Trevor Vittatoe	Fr.
TB	8	Marcus Thomas	Sr.

SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
WR	88	Tufick Shadrawy	So.
WR	16	Brandon Jordan	Fr.
WR	1	Fred Rouse	So.
LT	70	Alex Solot	Fr.
LG	65	Anthony McNac	So.
C	79	Tanner Cullumber	Fr.
RG	64	Colby Meek	So.
RT	75	Oniel Cousins	Sr.
TE	87	James Hunt	Jr.
QB	7	Brandis Dew	So.
TB	30	Donald Buckram	So.

FIRST TEAM DEFENSE (3)

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
DE	92	Dane O'Neill	So.
DT	91	James Olalekan	Jr.
DT	95	Steve Riddick	So.
DE	13	Robert Soleyjacks	Fr.
SLB	34	Emeri Spence	Sr.
MLB	5	Adam Vincent	Jr.
VLB	6	Jeremy Jones	Sr.
CB	3	Tim McCullough	Sr.
CB	2	Josh Ferguson	Sr.
SS	14	Braxton Amy	So.
FS	9	Quintin Demps	Sr.

SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
DE	32	Landon Goodwell	So.
DT	97	Charles Ofili	Jr.
DT	56	JaBoy Leomiti	Jr.
DE	93	Jason Boyce	Jr.
SLB	7	Nuuese Punimata	Jr.
MLB	17	Brian Wilkins	So.
VLB	8	Torrey Huckaby	Sr.
CB	47	Cornelius Brown	So.
CB	12	Melvin Stephenson II	So.
SS	4	Da'Mon Cromartie-Smith	So.
FS	11	Anthony Morrow	Fr.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos.	No.	Name	Class
K	15	Jose Martinez	Jr.
P	14	Kyle Peterson	Fr.
KR	9	Quintin Demps	Sr.
PR	2	Josh Ferguson	Sr.

Returning Starters In Bold

Head Coach: Mike Price

Record at School: 21-15 (3 years)

Career Record: 150-137 (25 years)

Offensive Coordinator: Eric Price

Defensive Coordinator: Tim Hundley

El Paso, Texas

Sun Bowl (51,500)

2007 SIGNEES

Russell Carr	WR	6'3"	195	Chino Hills, CA
Isaiah Carter	LB	6'2"	205	Converse, TX
Kevin Cheatum	WR	6'2"	180	Mount Pleasant, TX
Chris Dowell	LB	6'2"	200	El Paso, TX
Vernon Frazier	RB	5'7"	165	Duncanville, TX
Jack Freeman	WR	5'7"	155	Houston, TX
Jacob Garrett	DL	6'4"	260	Mount Pleasant, TX
Greg Holleman	LB	6'1"	195	Lubbock, TX
Donavon Kemp	WR	6'2"	180	Desoto, TX
Nathan McCage	OL	6'4"	255	Spring, TX
Daniel Palmer	RB	5'9"	200	College Station, TX
Simpson Rushing	OL	6'3"	295	Athens, TX
Paul Santillan	OL	6'4"	260	Crosby, TX
Jeremy Springer	QB	6'2"	190	Los Fresnos, TX
Brandon Thigpen	DB	6'3"	200	Moreno Valley, CA
Greg Watkins	DL	6'4"	190	Katy, TX
Craig Wood	DL	6'4"	250	Copperas Cove, TX

UTEP's recruiting class ended up being just as notable for who didn't come as who did after seven of the Miners' top commitments later changed their minds late in the process. One of the biggest was quarterback Chasen Stangel from California, who signed with Arizona State, but UTEP recovered quickly and nicely by signing quarterback and Texas product Jeremy Springer. He was the projected gem of a solid class that included 17 high school signees, three Division I-A transfers and six junior college transfers. Fifteen of the 17 high school signees were from Texas and six were considered in the state's top 300 prospects: linebacker Isaiah Carter, receiver Kevin Cheatum, defensive lineman Jacob Garrett, running back Vernon Frazier, receiver Jack Freeman and linebacker Greg Holleman. All of those players were recruited by Big 12 schools.

2006 RESULTS

Record: 5-7 (3-5 C-USA)

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Att.
A. 31	at San Diego State	W	34-27	34,723
S. 9	Texas Tech	L (ot)	35-38	51,827
S. 23	at New Mexico	L	13-26	34,069
S. 30	New Mexico State	W	44-38	51,500
O. 7	SMU	W	24-21	41,258
O. 14	Tulane	W	34-20	35,930
O. 21	at Houston	L	17-34	18,154
O. 27	at Tulsa	L	20-30	28,074
N. 4	Rice	L	31-37	42,685
N. 10	at UAB	W	36-17	13,809
N. 18	at Marshall	L	21-49	20,783
N. 25	Memphis	L	19-38	31,462

2006 INDIVIDUAL STATS

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TD	Int.
Jordan Palmer	429	282	3,595	26	14
Kyle Wright	9	6	91	1	1
Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
Marcus Thomas	156	513	3.3	5	
Lorne Sam	16	91	5.7	1	
Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
Johnnie Lee Higgins	82	1,319	16.1	13	
Marcus Thomas	39	242	6.2	1	
Daniel Robinson	37	606	16.4	7	
Chris Marrow	32	257	8.0	0	

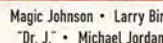
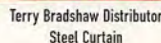
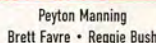
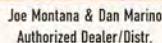
Kicking: Reagan Schneider, 16-20 FGs, 34-37 XPs, 82 points

Tackles: Troy Collavo, 125; Joe Fleskoski, 75

Sacks: Two players tied with 3.5

Interceptions: Quintin Demps, 7

Returning Players in Bold



\$2,000,000 SUMMER CLEARANCE SALE

[illegible]

Allen, Marcus Ray	\$145	Hartinger, Chris (Sims Hgt)	\$150	Choke, Christian KC	\$150
Allen, Marcus Ray/KC \$59 or 1620	\$150	Happer, Alan Vols/Dallas	\$159	Olney, Kyle Bears/Put	\$159
Ball, Tim NYG \$89 or 1620	\$149	Harris, Francis Steelers \$89 or 1620	\$149	Owens, Steve \$89 or 1620	\$159
Bales Steele/HOF \$59 or 1620	\$149	Harris, Tim NYG \$89 or 1620	\$149	Packers 76 Lombard	\$159
Bellino, Joe NYA/Hess	\$150	Heck, Al Packers/USG \$49 1620	\$157	Parham, Jim Metros	\$159
Blount, Mel Steelers/HOF	\$150	Herry, Travis Titans/Vols	\$157	Parish, Roscoe Dinos	\$159
Blue, Greg U Georgia	\$150	Holmes, Santonio Dins/Steele	\$159	Perkins, Don Dallas/R	\$159
Bond, Mike Packers/HOF	\$150	Hornung, Paul NYG \$29 or 1620	\$159	Petty, Chris Uls/Conc	\$159
Bowshorn, Brian Oklahoma	\$150	Jacks, Brandon Giants \$39 1620	\$159	Philly, Phil "Fridge" B	\$159
Bowshorn, Bobby FSU \$59 or 1620	\$159	Jacoby, Joe Redskins Hgt	\$159	Philly, Phil HOF 70 S	\$159
Brady, Mike Packers/HOF	\$159	Jewins, Michael Dins/St, Jt	\$159	Pickett, Jim Raiders	\$159
Branch, Cliff Raiders	\$159	Johnson, Chad Bengals	\$159	Rehrig, Mel Dallas/H	\$159
Brown, Chris Titans \$19 or 1620	\$159	Johnson, Rod Bengals	\$159	Rucker, Jeff SF/Raid	\$159
Brown, Ronnie Dolphins	\$159	Jones, Charlie Chargers/H	\$159	Richardson, Tony \$19	\$159
Brown, Tony Packers OTM	\$159	Jones, Deacon HOF Rams/D	\$159	Rodriguez, J Delv	\$159
Butkoff, Kevin Titans/SY	\$159	Jones, Kevin Valtf \$25 Lions 1620	\$159	Rodgers, J Nebraska	\$159
Burns, Jason NYG \$39 or 1620	\$159	Jones, Drew Redskins	\$159	Rogers, Carlos Auburn	\$159
Campbell, H OSU Hgt \$129 1620	\$159	Jung, Larry, Laker \$19	\$159	Salerno, John NYG	\$159
Carr, Mike NYA/Skins	\$159	Kirker, Bill M.M. Jags	\$159	Saltin, Rashan Ols	\$159

Carron, Bill LSU/H	\$159	Kotar, Bernie Oats/Dans	\$159	Sellers, Barry Lions	\$159
Cappelletti, John Rams	\$159	Krause, Paul NYG \$34 Virgus	\$159	Seaton, Elysha Q/Bl	\$159
Carron, Harry NYG	\$159	Larger, Jim HOF CS/Dolins	\$159	Shockey, DJ Georgia	\$159
Cassidy, H OSU Hgt T.S.P.	\$159	Latt, Johnny N.D. H	\$159	Sims, Chris Bears U	\$159
Chambers, Chris Dolphins	\$159	Lavett, Donte Browns/H	\$159	Sims, Bill Lions T.S.P.	\$159
Clark, David Sam Fran	\$159	Leffers, Stefan Louisville	\$159	Smith, L Eagles	\$159
Clark, Mike NYG/LB/Bus	\$159	Lerant, Matt Uls \$19 or 1620	\$159	Smith, Steve Panthers	\$159
Cole, Eric NEB/Hess T.S.P.	\$159	Lesie, Ashley Dins/H	\$159	Stator, Ken Raiders	\$159
Couch, Tim T.S.P. NY/HOF	\$159	Lilly, Bob Dallas HOF	\$159	Stallworth, Dorte Vols	\$159
Dow, John David T.M. Hess	\$159	Litt, Larry Miami/H	\$159	Stallworth, John Steele	\$159
Davis, Gene Jerry/Hess TSP	\$159	Loflin, James Packers/H	\$159	Stauder, Ernie Steelers	\$159
Davis, Willie Packers/HOF	\$159	Mackey, John Colts/HOF	\$159	Stenerud, Jan (KC)/H	\$159
Dawson, Len T.S.P., Chiefs HOF	\$159	Manning, Archie Saints	\$159	Stepenson, Dwight \$19	\$159
Dawson, Ron NYG \$19 1620	\$159	Matt, D. NYG/MS \$150 1620	\$159	Sullivan, Pat Auburn/H	\$159
Dick, R Bears SBMY \$29 or 1620	\$159	Marchetti, Gino (Colts) HOF	\$159	Taylor, Charles NYG	\$159
Doria, Mike Bears "Coaching"	\$159	Maynard, Don T.S.P. Jets HOF	\$159	Taylor, Fred Jags Vols	\$159
Dorsett, Art Colts HOF	\$159	McAlister, D. Saints \$39 1620	\$159	Taylor, James Dolphins	\$159
Dorsett, Tony Dallas/HOF	\$159	McGinty, Willie Pat's NYG or 1620	\$159	Thomas, Joe Redskins	\$159
Duffon, John Cowboys C.S.T.	\$159	McMichael, Randy UGA/Dolphs	\$159	Thomas, Thurman Blk/H	\$159
Edwards, Braylon Gator/Michigan	\$159	McNown, Doc UCLA	\$159	Thomas, Jack Dolphins	\$159
Davis, Les Bk/Hess	\$159	Mier, Heath Steelers \$25 or 1620	\$159	Tittle, Y.A. NY/SF/HOF	\$159
Faulk, Kevin Patriots	\$159	Mitchell, Bobie Skins/HOF	\$159	Toretta, Gino Miami	\$159
Favre, Brett D.F. Packers	\$159	Montana, Joe NYG \$19/Deane	\$159	Van Pelt, Brad Giants	\$159
Felix, Doug RB/Blk/Pk/SO	\$159	Moon, Warren Oilers HOF \$59 1620	\$159	Waller, Jonathan U. M	\$159
Foster, Larry Steelers/Mich	\$159	Moore, Leroy HOF TB C.S.A.	\$159	Walker, Herschel UGA	\$159
Galway, Jabbar Texans/H	\$159	Morere, Vernon U.S.C./Texans	\$159	Wekler, Mike Dolphins	\$159
Gifford, Jack Jets \$29 or 1620	\$159	Moss, Serrano U Miami/Giants	\$159	White, Cass USC/H	\$159
Giles, Antonio Chargers \$39 or 1620	\$159	Murphy, Anthony Eagle/HOF	\$159	Wilson, Dave SF/HOF	\$159
Glover, Lyle Dallas	\$159	Music City Miracle Titans/Dyson	\$159	Williams, C. Auz/Dal	\$159
Grove, Frank San Fran	\$159	Newsome, Ozzie Browns/HOF	\$159	Williams, Ray \$19 1620	\$159
Grise, Don NYG/HOF	\$159	Novak, Jay NYG \$19	\$159	Yonon, Jay NYG \$19	\$159
Haley, Charles Dallas/SF	\$159	Nugent, Mike Ohio St.	\$159	Young, Steve SF \$79	\$159
	\$159	O'Neil, Deita Bengals	\$159		

Solutions to P	5	269	100 John, Tim (7/5) SPS S...	5	960	Lambert, Jack (5/4) Stevens H...	5	300
	6	270	101 Altman, Jack (2/4) DCLA	6	961	Leah, Gus (3/6) rep W/ Champs	6	249
	7	271	102 Allen, Morris (6/4) OHSB \$308 Rep	7	962	Leary, M. (1/5) OHSB \$420 Cons Rep	7	329
	8	272	103 Altman, Jack (2/4) DCLA	8	963	Leary, M. (1/5) OHSB \$420 Cons Rep	8	329
	9	273	104 Bourne, Mel (Stickers) HRP	9	213	Leary, M. (1/5) OHSB \$420 Cons Rep	9	649
	10	274	105 Brookshire, T. (5/4) \$440 Rep	10	329	Monroe, Dan (5/4) SPS rep M.M.	10	449
	11	275	106 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	11	329	Monroe, J. (4/5) SPS R	11	479
	12	276	107 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	12	329	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	12	479
	13	277	108 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	13	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	13	579
	14	278	109 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	14	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	14	579
L	15	279	110 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	15	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	15	579
	16	280	111 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	16	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	16	579
	17	281	112 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	17	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	17	579
	18	282	113 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	18	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	18	579
	19	283	114 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	19	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	19	579
	20	284	115 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	20	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	20	579
	21	285	116 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	21	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	21	579
	22	286	117 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	22	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	22	579
	23	287	118 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	23	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	23	579
	24	288	119 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	24	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	24	579
L	25	289	120 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	25	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	25	579
	26	290	121 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	26	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	26	579
	27	291	122 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	27	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	27	579
	28	292	123 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	28	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	28	579
	29	293	124 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	29	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	29	579
	30	294	125 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	30	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	30	579
	31	295	126 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	31	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	31	579
	32	296	127 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	32	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	32	579
	33	297	128 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	33	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	33	579
	34	298	129 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	34	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	34	579
L	35	299	130 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	35	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	35	579
	36	300	131 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	36	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	36	579
	37	301	132 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	37	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	37	579
	38	302	133 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	38	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	38	579
	39	303	134 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	39	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	39	579
	40	304	135 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	40	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	40	579
	41	305	136 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	41	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	41	579
	42	306	137 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	42	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	42	579
	43	307	138 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	43	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	43	579
	44	308	139 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	44	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	44	579
L	45	309	140 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	45	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	45	579
	46	310	141 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	46	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	46	579
	47	311	142 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	47	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	47	579
	48	312	143 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	48	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	48	579
	49	313	144 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	49	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	49	579
	50	314	145 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	50	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	50	579
	51	315	146 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	51	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	51	579
	52	316	147 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	52	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	52	579
	53	317	148 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	53	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	53	579
	54	318	149 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	54	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	54	579
L	55	319	150 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	55	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	55	579
	56	320	151 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	56	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	56	579
	57	321	152 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	57	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	57	579
	58	322	153 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	58	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	58	579
	59	323	154 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	59	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	59	579
	60	324	155 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	60	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	60	579
	61	325	156 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	61	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	61	579
	62	326	157 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	62	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	62	579
	63	327	158 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	63	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	63	579
	64	328	159 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	64	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	64	579
L	65	329	160 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	65	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	65	579
	66	330	161 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	66	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	66	579
	67	331	162 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	67	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	67	579
	68	332	163 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	68	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	68	579
	69	333	164 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	69	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	69	579
	70	334	165 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	70	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	70	579
	71	335	166 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	71	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	71	579
	72	336	167 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	72	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	72	579
	73	337	168 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	73	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	73	579
	74	338	169 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	74	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	74	579
L	75	339	170 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	75	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	75	579
	76	340	171 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	76	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	76	579
	77	341	172 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	77	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	77	579
	78	342	173 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	78	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	78	579
	79	343	174 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	79	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	79	579
	80	344	175 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	80	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	80	579
	81	345	176 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	81	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	81	579
	82	346	177 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	82	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	82	579
	83	347	178 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	83	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	83	579
	84	348	179 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	84	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	84	579
L	85	349	180 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	85	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	85	579
	86	350	181 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	86	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	86	579
	87	351	182 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	87	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	87	579
	88	352	183 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	88	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	88	579
	89	353	184 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	89	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	89	579
	90	354	185 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	90	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	90	579
	91	355	186 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	91	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	91	579
	92	356	187 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	92	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	92	579
	93	357	188 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	93	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	93	579
	94	358	189 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	94	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	94	579
L	95	359	190 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	95	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	95	579
	96	360	191 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	96	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	96	579
	97	361	192 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	97	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	97	579
	98	362	193 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	98	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	98	579
	99	363	194 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	99	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	99	579
	100	364	195 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	100	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	100	579
	101	365	196 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	101	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	101	579
	102	366	197 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	102	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	102	579
	103	367	198 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	103	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	103	579
	104	368	199 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	104	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	104	579
L	105	369	200 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	105	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	105	579
	106	370	201 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	106	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	106	579
	107	371	202 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	107	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	107	579
	108	372	203 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	108	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	108	579
	109	373	204 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	109	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	109	579
	110	374	205 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	110	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	110	579
	111	375	206 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	111	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	111	579
	112	376	207 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	112	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	112	579
	113	377	208 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	113	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	113	579
	114	378	209 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	114	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	114	579
L	115	379	210 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	115	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	115	579
	116	380	211 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	116	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	116	579
	117	381	212 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	117	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	117	579
	118	382	213 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	118	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	118	579
	119	383	214 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	119	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	119	579
	120	384	215 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	120	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	120	579
	121	385	216 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	121	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	121	579
	122	386	217 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	122	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	122	579
	123	387	218 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	123	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	123	579
	124	388	219 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	124	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	124	579
L	125	389	220 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	125	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	125	579
	126	390	221 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	126	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	126	579
	127	391	222 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	127	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	127	579
	128	392	223 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	128	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	128	579
	129	393	224 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	129	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	129	579
	130	394	225 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	130	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	130	579
	131	395	226 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	131	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	131	579
	132	396	227 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	132	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	132	579
	133	397	228 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	133	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	133	579
	134	398	229 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	134	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	134	579
L	135	399	230 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	135	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	135	579
	136	400	231 Brown, J. (5/4) OHSB \$340 Rep	136	349	Nebraska, J. (4/5) SPS R	136	579
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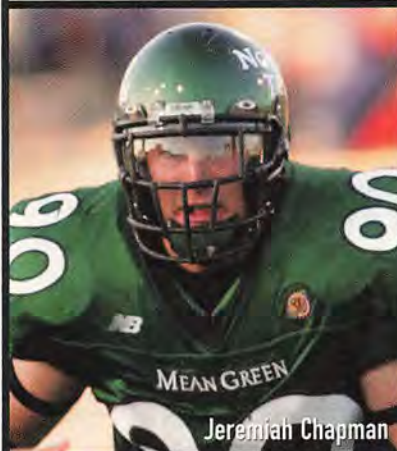
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A QUICK LOOK AT THE MEAN GREEN

First-year head coach Todd Dodge's plan may reap success, but it could also require patience. He changes the offense from run-first to spread and the defense from a 3-4 scheme to a 4-3, but his roster may be ill-equipped until recruiting can ease the transition. North Texas enters the season with no proven passer and without a plethora of experienced receivers. Both must be found for the offense to take flight. The 10 starters returning on defense must keep opponents at bay while the offense finds its rhythm. The team must also turn around its turnover margin, ranked 117th nationally last season, to help pull out close Sun Belt games. North Texas' schedule is manageable by Sun Belt standards, with non-conference home games against Navy and Western Kentucky and a contest versus SMU at neighboring Dallas. A bye week is also well-timed prior to the conference opener against visiting Florida Atlantic, but North Texas opens with four of its first five on the road. That may give Dodge time to find a team identity before the season's stretch run. Either way, the Sun Belt is a balanced league where rookie coaches have found early success.



Jeremiah Chapman

2007 SCHEDULE

S. 1	at Oklahoma	L
S. 8	at SMU	L
S. 22	Florida Atlantic	L
S. 29	at Arkansas	L
O. 6	at UL Lafayette	*
O. 13	UL Monroe	*
O. 20	at Troy	L
O. 27	Middle Tennessee	L
N. 10	Navy	L
N. 15	at Arkansas State	L
N. 24	Western Kentucky	W
D. 1	at Florida International	W

*Games in bold represent games crucial to the season.
W or L indicates a projected win or loss

Back-to-back losing seasons have erased most remnants of North Texas' four straight Sun Belt titles from 2001-04. First-year head coach Todd Dodge, previously one of the nation's top high school coaches, takes the Mean Green helm in hopes of returning a swagger to a recently stagnant program. Dodge will change more than just North Texas' outlook. The former Texas quarterback and North Texas offensive coordinator is installing a four-wideout spread offense, which is quite a departure from the team's smashmouth running attack of recent years.

"I've got a very vivid picture of our offense and what this team can be, and I think we've got the players to do it," Dodge says. "We've just got to get the players to see that picture, too. There's going to be a championship race, and we plan on being in the thick of it."

North Texas returns 14 starters, but few tasted the success of three seasons ago. On defense, 10 starters and last season's eight top tacklers return to compensate for an offense likely to face growing pains.

Quarterbacks Junior Daniel Meager is the frontrunner to guide the Mean Green's four-wideout offense. Meager has battled for the starting spot the last two seasons, passing for 517 yards and four TDs in six starts in 2006. Junior Matt Phillips and sophomore Nathan Tune may also vie for snaps. True freshman Giovanni Vizza was recruited to run North Texas' new offense, but he may need a year to develop. "We're not going to have quarterback by committee," Dodge says. "A guy is going to earn the job, and we're going to go with him. He's not going to have to look over his shoulder once he's the starter."

Running Backs Senior Jamario Thomas is three years removed from leading the nation in rushing, and he now must assume a new role in a spread offense. Thomas rushed for 1,801 yards in his 2004 freshman season but has amassed only 1,029 yards in two seasons since. Highly touted junior college transfer Cam Montgomery should push Thomas for carries in the one-back set. "Running back is a strength for us, and now Jamario won't have to run against eight or nine guys in the box," Dodge says.

Receivers North Texas will rotate at least eight receivers in its passing attack, but only senior Brandon Jackson returns as a starter. Converted tight ends, inexperienced wideouts and newcomers will fill the rest of the void at a vital position in Dodge's new offense. Jackson's mere 17 catches last season are more than all other wideouts combined in their career. Sam Roberson, a 6'4" true freshman, could be a key addition.

Offensive Linemen Center Chad Rose and left guard Adam Venegas are the unit's only returning starters. But the line's success could depend on the return of tackle Josh Alexander, who sat out last season with a knee injury. If healthy, Alexander may be the team's best lineman. Tackle Robert Peachey and guard Kelvin Drake, both sophomores, are first-time starters.

Defensive Linemen The front four returns starting senior defensive ends Blake Burruss and Jeremiah Chapman, an All-Sun Belt performer last season. Senior Montey Stevenson, who had 30 tackles and made three starts, and junior Isaac Thomas should hold down the tackle spots.

NUMBERS GAME

79-1

First-year North Texas coach Todd Dodge had a sparkling 79-1 record in his last five seasons at the high school level.

Linebackers Moving from a 3-4 scheme to a 4-3, North Texas is heavy at linebacker. Seven players return who have started at least one game, creating the likely strength of the Mean Green defense. Senior Derek Mendoza will man the middle, while All-Sun Belt candidate Maurice Holman is on the outside. Senior Brandon Monroe, junior Colt Mahan, junior Germaine Dawson and sophomore Tobe Nwigwe were among the team's top tacklers last season and should add depth at the position. "It may start at linebacker, but our defense should be our strength all the way around," Dodge says. "We've got a whole bunch of guys who've played a good bit, and that experience should get things started for us."

Defensive Backs All four starters return, including leading tackler and senior safety Aaron Weathers. Roy Loren will start at strong safety. Dominique Green and Antoine Bush will be reinforced at cornerback by Baylor transfer Latif Nurudeen. Although the secondary returns plenty of experience, the unit intercepted a league-low three passes in 2006.

Specialists Punter is locked up by All-Sun Belt selection Truman Spencer, who averaged 41.2 yards per boot last season. Kicker is anyone's guess. Dodge must find a reliable leg via walk-on or late signee before the season opener at Oklahoma. This team cannot afford to struggle in the kicking game.

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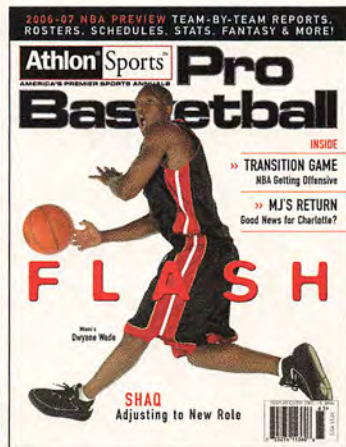
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July 2007



September 2007



September 2007

THE BACK PAGE

Here it is — the season at a glance. We've projected this year's records for all 119 Division I-A teams, although we've hedged our bets again with the "swing game" designation (the third number in each record). Worth noting: The lowest-ranked team without a sure loss is Boise State at No. 35. The highest-ranked team without a sure win: Washington, at No. 64.

TOP 25

1. USC	(11-0-1)
2. TEXAS	(11-0-1)
3. LSU	(10-0-2)
4. WISCONSIN	(10-0-2)
5. WEST VIRGINIA	(10-0-2)
6. FLORIDA	(10-0-2)
7. OKLAHOMA	(11-0-1)
8. MICHIGAN	(10-0-2)
9. VIRGINIA TECH	(10-0-2)
10. RUTGERS	(10-0-2)
11. CALIFORNIA	(9-0-3)
12. OHIO STATE	(9-0-3)
13. LOUISVILLE	(10-0-2)
14. GEORGIA TECH	(9-0-3)
15. UCLA	(9-1-2)
16. GEORGIA	(7-0-5)
17. PENN STATE	(9-2-1)
18. NEBRASKA	(9-2-1)
19. HAWAII	(12-0-1)
20. TENNESSEE	(8-1-3)
21. AUBURN	(7-2-3)
22. OREGON STATE	(8-2-2)
23. TEXAS A&M	(7-2-3)
24. MIAMI	(6-2-4)
25. TCU	(10-1-1)

26. FLORIDA STATE	(6-2-4)	73. MARSHALL	(5-6-1)
27. BOSTON COLLEGE	(6-2-4)	74. MICHIGAN STATE	(2-7-3)
28. MISSOURI	(9-3-0)	75. OLE MISS	(3-8-1)
29. ALABAMA	(6-1-5)	76. WYOMING	(5-4-3)
30. OKLAHOMA STATE	(7-4-1)	77. NORTH CAROLINA	(1-8-3)
31. SOUTH FLORIDA	(8-4-0)	78. MINNESOTA	(4-6-2)
32. WAKE FOREST	(7-1-4)	79. COLORADO STATE	(3-6-3)
33. IOWA	(9-2-1)	80. CONNECTICUT	(3-7-2)
34. ARKANSAS	(6-2-4)	81. TOLEDO	(6-3-3)
35. BOISE STATE	(10-0-2)	82. TROY	(7-4-1)
36. BYU	(9-1-2)	83. RICE	(3-7-2)
37. ARIZONA	(5-4-3)	84. NEVADA	(4-5-2)
38. NOTRE DAME	(5-5-2)	85. BAYLOR	(2-9-1)
39. SOUTH CAROLINA	(7-4-1)	86. EAST CAROLINA	(2-7-3)
40. OREGON	(5-4-3)	87. AIR FORCE	(4-7-1)
41. SOUTHERN MISS	(9-1-2)	88. KENT STATE	(7-4-1)
42. PURDUE	(7-3-2)	89. FRESNO STATE	(5-5-2)
43. KENTUCKY	(4-6-2)	90. OHIO	(6-3-3)
44. ARIZONA STATE	(6-4-2)	91. SAN DIEGO STATE	(1-10-1)
45. VANDERBILT	(4-6-2)	92. MEMPHIS	(3-6-3)
46. KANSAS STATE	(7-5-0)	93. BALL STATE	(3-6-3)
47. UTAH	(7-5-0)	94. BOWLING GREEN	(4-5-3)
48. NAVY	(8-3-1)	95. UTEP	(2-7-3)
49. TEXAS TECH	(7-5-0)	96. NORTHERN ILLINOIS	(4-7-1)
50. MARYLAND	(4-6-2)	97. MIAMI (OHIO)	(2-6-4)
51. CLEMSON	(3-5-4)	98. DUKE	(0-10-2)
52. TULSA	(8-2-2)	99. SYRACUSE	(1-8-3)
53. CINCINNATI	(6-5-1)	100. STANFORD	(0-11-1)
54. VIRGINIA	(3-4-5)	101. AKRON	(2-7-3)
55. PITTSBURGH	(4-4-4)	102. UNLV	(1-9-2)
56. HOUSTON	(9-2-1)	103. NEW MEXICO STATE	(4-8-1)
57. KANSAS	(5-5-2)	104. ARKANSAS STATE	(4-4-4)
58. WASHINGTON STATE	(3-8-1)	105. MIDDLE TENNESSEE	(5-4-3)
59. CENTRAL MICHIGAN	(8-1-3)	106. TULANE	(1-8-3)
60. INDIANA	(4-4-4)	107. UAB	(1-10-1)
61. COLORADO	(2-7-3)	108. LOUISIANA TECH	(1-8-3)
62. UCF	(5-2-5)	109. FLORIDA ATLANTIC	(2-6-4)
63. NEW MEXICO	(7-4-1)	110. UL MONROE	(2-7-3)
64. WASHINGTON	(0-10-3)	111. ARMY	(2-8-2)
65. NC STATE	(3-6-3)	112. UL LAFAYETTE	(2-6-4)
66. NORTHWESTERN	(4-4-4)	113. IDAHO	(1-9-2)
67. ILLINOIS	(3-6-3)	114. NORTH TEXAS	(2-8-2)
68. WESTERN MICHIGAN	(6-3-3)	115. TEMPLE	(0-11-1)
69. SMU	(6-5-1)	116. EASTERN MICHIGAN	(1-11-0)
70. IOWA STATE	(3-8-1)	117. UTAH STATE	(0-10-2)
71. MISSISSIPPI STATE	(3-8-1)	118. BUFFALO	(0-11-1)
72. SAN JOSE STATE	(7-4-1)	119. FIU	(0-12-0)

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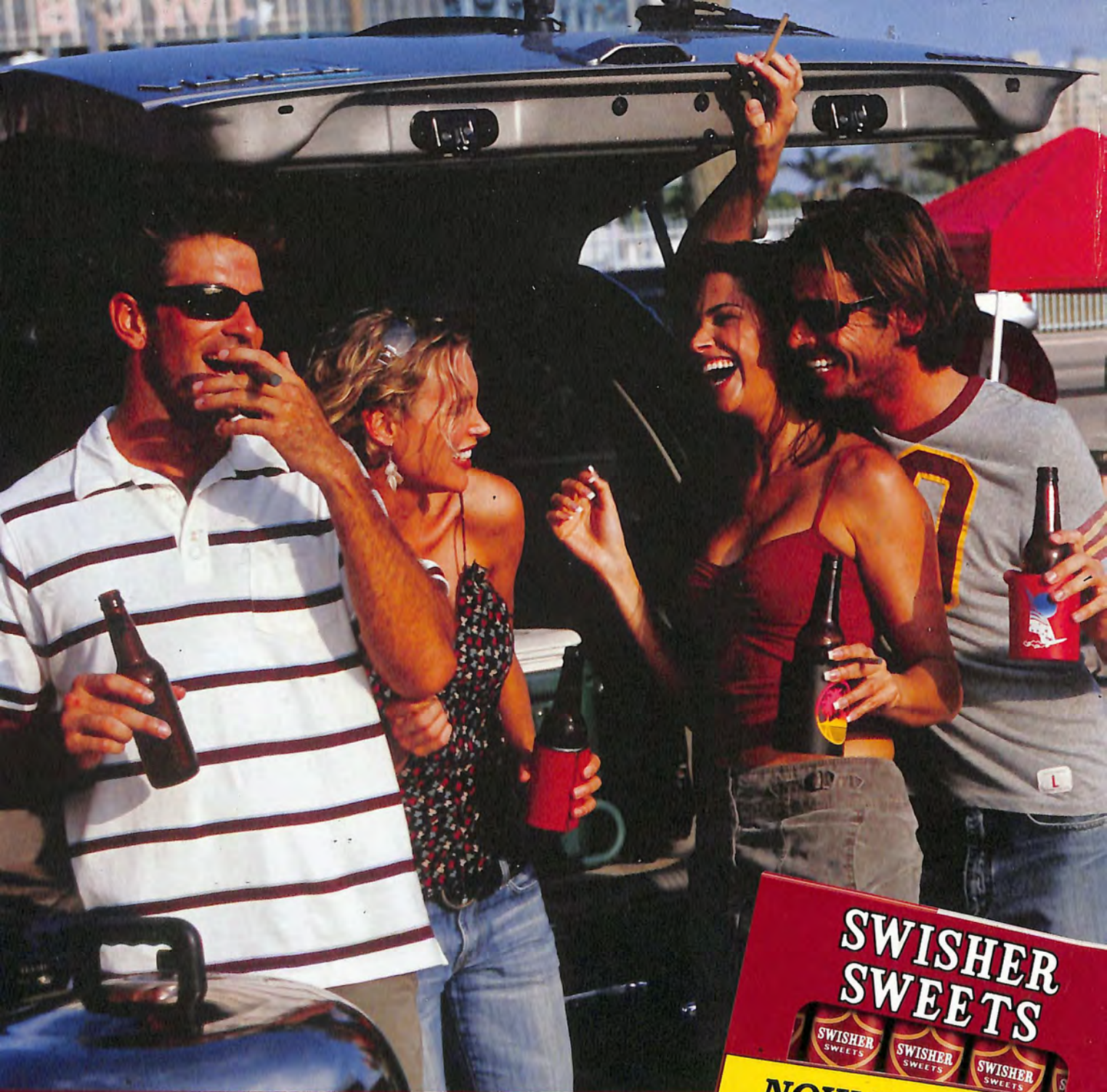


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